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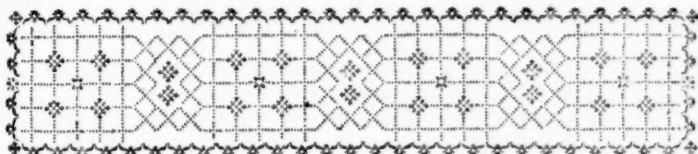
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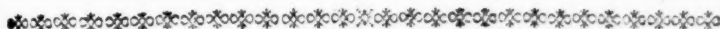
SUPPLEMENT

TO THE

FIRST VOLUME

OF THE

MONTHLY MISCELLANY.



The SCRIBBLER, No. VII.

Disclose your grievances to me,
And take advice without a fee.

Dr. SANGRADO.

To the SCRIBBLER.

SIR,



HERE is, in almost every place, a certain class of people, who make it their principal business to observe the manners and behaviour of others, and publickly to take notice of such incidents,—and such *only*—as seem to be least consistent with rectitude and propriety. They are ever on the watch over a man's conduct, and when they cannot obtain full proof of his doing wrong, they ground the tale by appearances only, and fill up the remaining spaces with conjectures of their own, for which they vouch as matters of fact. The story, thus fabricated, is introduced among the multitude, and the destructive rumour spreads so fast, that a man is mostly arraigned, cast, and condemned, ere he can speak in his own defence. Should he afterwards urge his innocence, they do not admit it as a plea; the sentence once past, is impossible to be

SUPP. VOL. I.

withdrawn; and though he might before have been esteemed as a man of probity and good sense, he now forfeits all pretensions to either; or if he is allowed to have once possessed them, they are now made use of only to increase the depth of his fall.

These are truths, Mr. Scribble, which numbers have experienced, but which few ever think of, or seldom will believe, till they have found the proof. This, Sir, has been my own case. I have always thought it sufficient, that my actions should be directed by my own reason and judgment, and, in compliance with this opinion, I was happy, on every occasion, when, upon a review of my past conduct, I could perceive no faults but such as all mankind are subject to, and my conscience told me I had nothing to reproach myself with. This was my sole monitor, and to myself and Providence only I imagined I was accountable;—but it seems I am now to be taught a new doctrine; there is a *somebody* that we stile *The World*, to whom our every deed is to be submitted, and to whom we must be

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conformable in all instances; for if we do in one, we must in all. They cannot be the directors of one action, without assuming a power over all, and if we have followed their dictates for ever so long a time, we are discarded notwithstanding, if we once deviate from their rules.

For instance: This same *World*, Sir,—if we may believe their own words, has once thought well of me. They have since taken it into their heads that I have behaved improperly, and have been guilty of a breach of honour.—I need not tell you the whole of their accusation; suffice it to say, that I did not deserve the charge, and not imagining myself obliged to comply with their will, I thought my innocence a sufficient security, and therefore continued in pursuit of that which they deemed improper.

Matters were in this situation, when I was called from home for a few weeks, and at my return I was pestered on all sides with the reports which had been spread against me during my absence;—reports, Sir, which never had a foundation in truth, and which the authors of *dare not* assert to my face. This, I think, is a treatment which no man can deserve.—If I have before possessed any *good qualities*, may not these be allowed to have some weight in regulating my conduct?—If I had once a sense of *delicacy* or *honour*, would not it in some measure have prevented me from injuring that of others? or if I were capable of *distinguishing* between *right* and *wrong*, could I at once have run into folly and imprudence?—The assertion would be an absurdity.—And if I have not these sentiments, or this knowledge, they are still more culpable who “*indulge on my fores*,” and take a pleasure in displaying my failings to the public; for common reason will tell us that many allowances are due to those persons who are not able to judge for themselves.

Their charge against me, whatever it is, I am not obliged to answer, nor do I chuse it, as it has not originated from the good wishes of a friend, but from that proneness to scandal, which is become too general. I will allow it has formerly been mentioned to me by a friend, to whom I fully justified myself, and gave the most satisfactory information; but to those who are delighted with the tale of slander, I shall not take the trouble of a justification, but shall leave

them to the absurdity of their own opinions. This, however, I will venture to say, that from the most serious thoughts I can entertain of the matter, I have no reason to think I have infringed upon the rules of honour; and whether or not I have been imprudent, can only be known from a relation of the circumstances. This I shall never think of giving, nor has any one a right to require it of me.

It may be said, that besides the *being good*, I should also endeavour to *appear so*; but there are some matters which are not in themselves wrong, yet do not seem to be exactly right: Such, we may say, is my case; and if men judge wrong concerning me, I am not to alter myself according to their inclinations; nor is it reasonable, that I should desist from what I am assured is not worthy of censure, merely because a set of tattlers chuse to find fault.

I should not, Sir, have troubled you with this letter, but from the opinion I have, that there are many persons in a similar situation with myself; and as you have undertaken to reform (if possible) the morals of mankind, you may perhaps, at a leisure hour, give the public your thoughts upon the matter, and endeavour, by your advice, to root out this fondness for propagating bad opinions, which at present spreads its contagious influence through almost all ranks of people.

In the mean time I remain,

SIR,

Your very humble servant,

June 30.

JUVENIS.

IF JUVENIS considers me as his friend, he will not be offended at the freedom with which I treat his letter. The deference which he seems to pay to the opinion of the *World* (as he terms it) is of that dangerous tendency, which will one day or other produce innumerable evils to himself, if not timely guarded against. Mankind may be said to be divided into three classes, viz. *Friends*, or intimate Companions;—*Enemies*, or those who from an error in principle, or from no principle at all, are pleased with forwarding the tales of calumny;—and *Indifferents*, or those by whom you are wholly disregarded.—Now, Sir, to the *second*, only, of these classes, are you indebted for every article of abuse which is circulated concerning you; for your *Friends* would

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would *privately* inform you of what you do
amiss, or would at least endeavour to pre-
vent others from *publickly* defaming you.
—It is not, then, the *World* that is your
enemy, but a *contemptible part* of it only;
you are only suffering what thousand have
before endured, and are in your turn em-
ploying an insignificant set of curious im-
pertinents, who exist by no other means
than scandal. In this case, reason will at
once point out to you, how little regard is
to be paid to their opinion. The appro-
bation of your friends is to you a sufficient
proof of having acted right, and you may
therefore calmly smile at the attempts of
interested persons to lessen you in their
esteem.

The necessity of appearing blameless is
nevertheless obvious; yet wholly to escape
the censures of a giddy multitude would be
nearly as impossible as to attain the summit
of perfection. Many people are possessed
of an extensive curiosity; in some it is the
prevailing foible. A desire of knowing
every secret induces them to make frequent
observations and enquiries, and their eager-
ness to obtain universal information ex-
poses them to a number of mistakes. By
these means casual misrepresentations are
dispersed as indubitable truths, and, as in
the fable of the Three Crows, our very
ideas become realised, and are sent abroad
amongst our neighbours, to our discredit,
while we are ignorant of what has passed.

A principle of charity would lead us to
hope, that these are the only canies of what
we call slander, but *Truth denies it with
her open hands*; she directs us to look
round the world, and leaves it to ourselves
to determine, if there are not many of this
splenetic disposition, who had rather pass a
censure upon the conduct of another,
than set his virtues in the fairest light.

From what motive this passion may arise,
I will not take upon me to say; but where-
ever we meet with it, we despise the pos-
sessors of it, and mark them down as ob-
jects to be avoided; and I think my corre-
spondent Juvenis may rest contented with
assuring himself, that the tongue of malice
will in vain attempt to injure him, while
his own behaviour is a contradiction to
their invectives, and that instead of suffer-
ing from their designs, his merit will rise in
proportion to the astiduity of his enemies.

HINTS ON PROTESTANT SCHOOLS, &c.

TO THE EDITORS OF THE
MONTHLY MISCELLANY.

SIRS,

YOUR benevolent co-respondent's
remarks,* relative to the institution
of Schools, the encouragement of School-
masters, School-mistresses, &c. are ex-
tremely just and pertinent.

The institution and establishment of
Protestant School, wherein Children and
Youth are taught Reading, Writing, and
Accounts, and initiated in the principles
of true Religion, are of the greatest utility
to the nation; and, were they more gene-
rally attended to and encouraged, would, I
am persuaded, prevent a multiplicity of
Thefts, Parloinnings, Burglaries, Street
Robberies, Highway Robberies, &c. and
be a means of saving thousands from Exe-
cution, Transportation, &c.

Such Institutions should unquestionably
be promoted, encouraged, and patronized
by the Great, the Humane, the Benevo-
lent, and the Opulent. 'Tis true, indeed,
we are highly indebted to antiquity, huma-
nity, benevolence, and christianity, for the
institution, establishment, and endowment
of a small selection of Charity Schools,
dispersed here and there about the king-
dom. But alas! if the majority of our
great men, both ecclesiastics, and laics,
continue to take such rapid and gigantic
strides towards universal despotism, and
commit such unlimited depredations on the
property of the poor, as they have done of
late years, we have had infinite reason to
be horribly afraid, lest they should arbitra-
rily despoil us of these, as well as of all
other useful institutions, endowments, pri-
vileges, rights, and immunities! So that,
according to the dire complexion of the
times, we have little reason to hope for an
accession to these charitable institutions,
these christian endowments. For, not-
withstanding the Spirit of Truth asserts,
that 'tis more "blest to give than to re-
ceive," yet this *over-sorgacious* generation
has reversed the maxim, and deem it more
honourable, at least more convenient to
exhort from, than to give to the poor!

As to the lower classes of people, by the
pernicious and destructive practices of en-

* See p. 167.

closing of open and common fields, consolidating of farms, the baneful methods of engrossing, monopolizing, and by every ignominious and oppressive art capable of being invented by inhumanity, rapacity, and avarice, they are so grievously oppressed, and so daily harassed for bread for themselves and children, that they have no money to bestow on their children's education. As to our lower classes of youth, such as gentlemen's servants, young tradesmen, husbandmen's servants, &c. being generally single men, they have most commonly wherewithal to purchase a little useful, salutary learning, had they but an inclination. But, alas! there are other seminaries of learning—I mean those of Bacchus, Venus, Mammon, &c. far more powerfully attractive, and infinitely more magnetic, than those where Reading, Writing, Accomps, &c. are taught.

Could we once be happy enough to find the Philosopher's Stone; could we be once fortunate enough to find out the great arcana, once discover the grand secret of converting all imperfect metals into sterling gold and silver, or possessed proficiency or dexterity enough to teach our youth how to acquire estates, or large sums of money, we should have scholars in abundance—we should have pupils plenty. But, alas! the noble arts of Reading, Writing, Arithmetic, Church-Music, &c. have no attractive charms with the youth of a profligate generation! Besides, 'tis the Schoolmaster's province to inculcate that golden, tho' now antiquated rule, of doing to others as we would be done by—which sounds extremely harsh in the ears of an avaricious, venal race of mortals: and that man, who conscientiously adheres to, and inculcates, that exploded maxim—"Honesty is the best policy," shall not only be shunned as a pestilence, but be likewise exposed to the peril of famishing thro' want!

If your Correspondent is a gentleman of the liberal order, I must pay him the compliment of believing that he is arrived to a pitch of benevolence, infinitely superior to the generality of his brethren.

It seems now a-days to be a maxim universally adopted, not only by the legislature, but also by the majority of our great men, both ecclesiastics and laics, that provided they can hold the common people in extreme vassalage, and abject slavery, 'tis a

matter of great indifference whether they can read, or understand the least tittle of their duty towards God, or no. As to my own part, I have followed the almost famishing profession of a School-master for more than 20 years; during which time I have rarely ever had the good fortune to meet with any encouragement, protection, or patronage from the Great, and especially from the Clergy; and I find things every day grow more desperate!

The Clergy generally take care to line their own carcasses and purses pretty well; but as for Schoolmasters, they may subsist on the atmosphere, or on their books, if they can: they don't chuse to trouble their important heads about such insignificant creatures as Schoolmasters, and poor Children, except it be to make an addition to their already excruciating distresses!

In short, Englishmen seem now to have lost, not only all their primitive Christianity, viz. Rectitude and Sincerity, but almost every spark of Humanity and Benevolence also! So that there seems to be no further use for Schoolmasters in this once happy, but now miserable kingdom! Therefore, those who follow that profession, and especially in the country villages, may accompany those shoals of tradesmen, husbandmen, &c. which are daily emigrating to the Colonies, and there try their fate among the noble Americans.

Nay, does a person possess talents and abilities for composing and writing Essays on the investigation, elucidation, &c. of the noble arts of Reading, Writing, Arithmetic, Church Music, &c.—possesses abilities adequate to, and has a mind to compose and write animadversions, criticisms, or in defence of Morality, Justice, or the Constitution, civil or ecclesiastical,—alas! these are subjects now a-days which have no admirers; they are wholly discarded; true Taste, Honesty, Sincerity, and Integrity, have entirely forsaken this land, and are banished into some remote corner of the globe! I say, a person of such honest principles, such abilities, has nothing to do in a land where Despotism, Corruption, Chicane, Dissimulation, every low Art and Cunning, and an universal Degeneracy and Depravity of Taste have overspread the whole empire!—Such, Sirs, is the case

of

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Engraved for the Monthly Miscellany.



*The Introduction of the Comtesse Du Barre
to Louis XV.*

Genuine MEMOIRS of the Celebrated COUNTESS DU BARRE,

INCLUDING SOME

Authentic Anecdotes of the Court of France, during the Reign of LOUIS XV.

*Illustrated with a fine PRINT of the Introduction of MADAME DU BARRE,
At the Court of LOUIS XV.*

IT has been a weakness peculiar to the Monarchs of France, and particularly to Louis the Fifteenth, to entertain an aversion to the matrimonial life,—and to prefer the uncertain pleasures of a female favourite to the more lasting happiness of conjugal affection.

We find, in the annals of this Monarch, that he had ever some favourite Mistress, and in some cases has suffered them so far to get the ascendancy over him, that he has even submitted the direction of his kingdom to their ambition.

The insinuations of *such women* have frequently overturned the political systems of the French Ministers, and when their best-laid projects have been ripe for execution, they have been suddenly dismissed from the service of their master, and not seldom has their dismissal been attended with disgrace.

During the time that the Marchioness de Pompadour was in possession of the French King's affections, the several motions of the Cabinet were wholly under her direction, and she was in fact the *Prime Minister*. *Du Barré* has not been less fortunate than *La Pompadour*, in being a favourite with Louis,—and let *Choiseul* tell how far she has succeeded in endeavouring at the summit of political power.

The Memoirs of the Countess du Barré are singular, but have been so variously related, that few can tell on which narrative to fix their credit. We have made diligent search into such as were of a doubtful kind, and we find the following authenticated by persons well acquainted with the Life and Court Intrigues of that celebrated Lady.

That the Countess has little to boast of, by reason of her birth, is on all sides agreed on; being the offspring of an illicit amour between Father *L'Ange*, a Capuchin Friar, and a servant in his convent. Her juvenile adventures chiefly were amongst persons of the lowest class; and obeying the first dictates of a licentious inclination, she acquired an early intimacy with meanness

and prostitution, and for some time contented herself with the scanty subsistence that detestable life afforded her.

Du Barré was very far from wanting beauty; she had an elegance and gracefulness of person, and a manner that was irresistibly engaging. When she was about sixteen, she took up the profession of a *Walking Milliner*, and hawked about her goods in a band-box. Under this sanction, she visited almost whom she pleased; and not being infensible of her personal accomplishments, was ever careful to make the best advantage of them.

Here we beg leave to pass over a considerable part of this Lady's life, which consists of incidents at once uninteresting, and improper for the public eye. Suffice it to say, that she was perpetually under obligations to some new Protector, among which class we find a French Nobleman of the name of *Du Barré*.

At that time *Du Barré* kept a kind of gaming-table, whither most of the French Nobility occasionally resorted; and it was here that she attracted the notice of *Monsieur le Bel*, a favourite servant of Louis XV. who was so much struck with the elegance and beauty of her appearance, that he immediately determined to introduce her to his Royal Master, but without any idea of her making a longer impression on him than any others had since the decease of the *Marchioness de Pompadour*. *Le Bel*, however, was mistaken. *Du Barré* was not ignorant how far her late predecessors had mistaken their point, and she knew that this was an opportunity not to be neglected.—The awe of Majesty had terrified others; and as Louis could not but distinguish between the amiable reserve of modesty, and the timidity which arises in the presence of a superior, he was ever disgusted with those whom *Le Bel* had before introduced to him. Instead of this awkward reserve, she met him with a frankness that at once surprised and charmed him,—and seemed to make him quite forget his dignity.

Du Barré was now about 26, and might be termed extremely handsome. From frequent visits, his mind became attached to her alone, and he even proposed to acknowledge her in public as his Mistress; but against this there was a considerable obstacle—*Du Barré* had not yet been known by the denomination of a married woman; (a very necessary point for the Mistress of the French King) and at this time was called *L'Ange*, after her father, the Capuchin Friar. The Count *du Barré* hesitating at nothing that might promote his interest, agreed to remove this grand barrier, and in a short time did, by obliging his brother to marry her, from whence she acquired the name of *La Barré*, and was afterwards called the *Countess du Barré*.

Being now become the King's Mistress, (which in France is considered as an office of state) there was nothing wanting but her instalment, before she began the exercise of her power in the cabinet. With the King she had already employed it to good purpose. The ceremony on this occasion was, that two Ladies of the Court should introduce her in form to the Princesses, the hem of whose garment she was to kiss, after which she was to be publicly introduced to the King, and was then to have the honour of the palace, and lodge in the royal apartments at Versailles.

The Countess had received her knowledge of state affairs from the Dukes of Richlieu and Aiguillon, whose interest she espoused, and who, together with the Count her last keeper, formed her private council. Hence it was that she became odious to the Duc de Choiseul, and his family, who did all in their power to prevent her being admitted to the honours which she sought.

It would naturally be imagined, that in a Court so habituated to the practice of obeying the Mistress of their Monarch, as that of France, there would be little difficulty in procuring Ladies to take a part in the ceremony of introducing her. True it is, that the Ladies of that Court have few scruples of conscience with respect to the absolute infamy of such a piece of complaisance, but then the fear of incurring the ridicule is so prevalent amongst them, that they are extremely cautious of debasing themselves by any public servility; and in the present case it was some months before two Ladies could be found to undertake

this office;—a backwardness which was probably not a little increased by the insinuations of the Duc de Choiseul. At length, however, the first ceremony was gone through, and the Countess was presented in form to the Princesses, who treated her with every mark of contempt they could possibly give.

The only point now wanting was the presentation to the King, the circumstances of which are thus related:—On the day appointed for this ceremony, the King was waiting for the Countess and her attendants, in a pavilion, the window of which fronted the principal road to Versailles. The populace having got some knowledge of this circumstance, had assembled in crowds near the palace, and Louis by no means expecting such a visit from his subjects, expressed his surprize to Choiseul, and asked the reason of their thus assembling; when Choiseul, with an archness peculiar to himself, replied, "Sire, your subjects having learnt that this was the day for introducing *Du Barré* to your Majesty, are come to be present at so interesting a sight." It is needless to say, that Louis's pride was mortified at this reply. He felt the ridicule of that scene with which he was going to entertain the public; and, conscious of his folly, ordered the Duc de Richlieu to put off the ceremony till another day; but Richlieu thinking the delay might be of no good consequence, pretended only to execute his order; for directly opening the door, and beckoning in the Countess and her attendants, returned as if with surprize, saying, *Sire, la voici!* "Here she comes, my Liege."

Nothing could be more pleasing to Louis than this piece of finesse of Richlieu's.—The ceremony he so much dreaded was happily got over in an instant; and Richlieu triumphed in the confusion of Choiseul, who was in general suspected of having occasioned the visit of the populace, by giving them notice of the event.

Having thus possessed herself of all the honours of the palace, and being installed in form the King's *Sultana*, she failed not to give full exercise to that power with which she was invested. From hence, therefore, we find her the sole directress of the state machine, enforcing or preventing such measures as she approved or censured; and the Duke de Choiseul in many instances

felt the effects of her exerting that authority which he had so strenuously endeavoured to debar her from.

Du Barré, though not a woman of great wit, had yet sufficient for the conduct of a person who had such able advisers as her little private council consisted of; (for the political history of France will scarce afford such a triumvirate as *Richieu*, *Aiguillon*, and *Du Barré*, for acuteness in matters of court cabal) and whenever an opportunity presented itself, she took care to convince *Choiseul* how little she was indebted to him for her acquisitions; and there is little room to doubt also, but that his dismissal and disgrace, which happened soon after, was effected through her means.

Thus far have we traced the memoirs of *Madam Du Barré*, from a most obscure and wretched birth, and from a state of absolute distress and poverty, to be the favourite of a Monarch, the partner of his wealth, and the governess of his kingdom; and this, too, without a single particle of intrinsic merit, but merely from the fortunate circumstance of suiting the disposition of a Prince, who was himself too much addicted to licentiousness and folly.

But the honours she enjoyed with her Royal Friend were not of long duration.—A few short years deprived her of her glory, and taught her the uncertainty and ill effects of those enjoyments which are purchased at the expence of virtue and of honour.

In the month of May, 1774, his Majesty was attacked with a slight indisposition, which proved to be the small-pox, and was afterwards attended with very dangerous symptoms. Conscious of his approaching dissolution, and of the danger to which he would be exposed at his death, he sent for her to his chamber, and is said to have addressed her in terms like these:

“My dear friend,—I now begin to feel the approach of that awful change, which naturally impresses the minds of men with terror and solemnity;—and though I would collect my whole attention to the preparing for that great event, yet as I have been the means of advancing you to your present dignity, I cannot refuse to give you every assistance in my power towards the future preservation of your happiness. Go then,

my dear Countess; let your money, your jewels, and your possessions, be immediately conveyed from hence, and retire with all the expedition and secrecy you can.—You cannot but know the dangers you will be liable to at my decease, and I intreat you, therefore, to make a proper use of the present moment, and to escape from the troubles that will otherwise inevitably fall on you.”

A discourse like this could not be heard without astonishment; the Countess was quite thunderstruck. But the advice of *Louis* was too serious to be neglected, and she therefore began to prepare for her departure; but she had not time to get out of Paris before the King was dead, and was instantly seized by order of his successor, and imprisoned on the usual plea of *having meddled too much in political affairs*.

How long her confinement may continue cannot now be guessed; but as the steps hitherto taken against her are in consequence of a total change of measures in the French system of government, in which *Choiseul* has now the guidance, it is most probable that banishment or perpetual imprisonment will be her fate, more especially as none of her former friends are likely to have any interest again at court.

THE FORCE OF NATURE,

A NARRATIVE.

By Mr. LANGHORNE.

EUDOCIA, an only daughter, was bred up under the auspices of *Althezia*, a lady equally distinguished by her piety as a Christian, and her affection as a parent. The temper and genius of the daughter were naturally warm and susceptible: The offices and duties of religion had habitually inspired her with such a zealous and fervent devotion, that she seemed to have no happiness, that did not flow from those exercises and attentions which religion required.

Her knowledge of books was little, of human nature less. She had, notwithstanding, conceived an infinite contempt for that world, to which she was utterly a stranger, and concluded, that to enter into the interests and engagements of society, would

would be a voluntary sacrifice to Vice and Folly.

Eudocia was, in natural good sense, beauty, and a sweetness of disposition, equalled by few women of her time.—These equal ties engaged the affections of Alphenor, a Gentleman whose genius and penetration gave him a kind of intuitive knowledge of the human heart.

He concluded, that every attempt to introduce Eudocia to the world, or to establish the social life in her good opinion, would be in vain. He knew that it would be fruitless to argue with her on the pleasures she had never known, and the miseries she had never experienced.—He, therefore, did not expatiate, either on the advantages of society, or the inconveniences of solitude; for such had been the condition of Eudocia's life, that, as yet, she was, in a great measure a stranger to both.

Upon the death of her parents, which happened before she had attained her twenty-fifth year, her fortune and manner of life were at her own disposal.—She now determined to put in execution a scheme which she had long meditated.—It was to retire, but not into a convent. A spirit of liberty had always saved her from that sacrifice, however industriously solicited by the emissaries of the church, or encouraged by selfish relations.

She was possessed of an estate, situated in a very retired part of the province of Compeigne; and there it was that she had determined to live sequestered from the world, with no other society than an aged confessor, and necessary domestics.—Of the last she made a very few, and those females, sufficient.

At this crisis it might have been expected, that Alphenor would have used his utmost address to dissuade her from her purpose.—By no means.—On the contrary, he encouraged her in her resolution, applauded the piety of her purpose, and expatiated on the happiness of solitary sanctity. He assumed not the least of the lover's character, but that of the religious friend.

By this means he gained one point, which he had used all his industry, all his art to obtain.—He had Eudocia's permission to pay her one visit at the end of three months after her retirement; a favour which was allowed to none beside, either of her friends

or acquaintance, and which Alphenor himself, though through the mediation of religion, had scarce address sufficient to obtain.

Eudocia retired.—She approached the confines of her estate with raptures, and paid a kind of idolatrous worship to the venerable groves that surrounded her habitation.

'Hail, she cried, ye innocent and happy Foresters! Ye shall at once be the witnesses and the guardians of my repose.—Enjoy your vegetable existence, secure from the cruelties and the ravages of man! I have fled from the evils of society, to enjoy peace and innocence with you—my undesigning friends! My blameless companions! Often shall I associate with you, and repose under the kind protection of your shade.'

With the same kind of enthusiastic pleasure she walked through the several apartments of her house, consecrating each with a kind of petitionary ejaculation.

For the first week of her retirement, she found sufficient employment in the economy of her family, and the distribution of their several offices to her domestics.—The second she devoted to religious exercises and the raptures of devotion.

But whatever is rapturous cannot last long. Those exercises that lift the mind above its usual pitch, if too frequently, or too long indulged, will at length either totally destroy it, or deprive it of that sobriety which is necessary for the preservation of its due poise.

Nature seems, in kindness, to have guarded us against the inconveniences that might arise from hence, by shortening the influence of joy, by inclining us to variety, and by giving the property, either of indifference or disgust, to every object that has been too long, or too assiduously pursued, with whatever avidity it might have been embraced at first.

That little society to which Eudocia had hitherto been accustomed, was a necessary relief from the assiduities of religious studies and exercises; and, far from being any prejudice, was, in reality, favourable to the interests of religion. It is certain, however, that she was of a different opinion, upon her first seclusion from the world; but many weeks had not passed, before she

found the solitude of her retirement to be a source of new pleasures, and she began to regret the society of her friends.

felt the inconveniences of her mistake, if she was unwilling to perceive the mistake itself.

The exercises of devotion; by being too frequently repeated, became languid and unaffecting: Her mind, having been accustomed to communication, shrunk under the weight of its own sentiments; and every succeeding day approached less welcome, and more feared than the former.

In this dissatisfied and dejected state, she recollected the appointment of Alphenor's visit—with joy she recollected it, and remembered, with a blush, the difficulties she had started against it.

'How (said she) shall I conceal the pleasure, which I cannot but feel at the sight of Alphenor! If I express my real sentiments, he will have reason to think his presence of some consequence to my happiness; and if I receive his visit with an indifference equal to that with which I received the proposal of it, I shall do violence to that candour and sincerity of heart, which cannot bear even the shadow of dissimulation. In the former case, I should appear a weak and unsteady creature to Alphenor. In the latter, I should become insupportable to myself.'

While she was thus meditating in what manner she should receive her friend, the time appointed for his visit was at hand.—But Alphenor did not appear. Master of every key to the human heart, he knew that if, by delaying his visit to Eudocia, he gave it the appearance of uncertainty, that uncertainty would probably create an anxiety on her part, which might not be unfavourable to his design.

This had the desired effect: day after day passed away in the same solitary languor, and Eudocia concluded, that the many objections she had made to Alphenor's visit, had determined him at last to think of it no more. This reflection made her miserable, and she now wished for nothing so ardently, as that the presence of her friend would prove those apprehensions vain.

At length he came.—A tear fell from the eye of Eudocia, when she received him; he observed it, and knew that he had now nothing more to do, than to reconcile her to herself, and to enable her to acknowledge her mistake, without shame or confusion.

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Those wants that invention or eloquence could supply, never distressed him long.

'I hope, Madam (said he) that a life of solitude has been more comfortable to you than it has been to me.' 'How (cried Eudocia) has Alphenor been a solitaire?'

'Such, Madam, I have been ever since I lost the happiness of Eudocia's conversation. It was always my ambition to imitate her. Shall she, (said I) shall a woman have fortitude to forsake the world, and retire to solitude, to practise the sublime duties of religion; and shall I not profit by the example of that virtue I cannot but praise? But, alas! Madam! alas! Eudocia! shall I confess to you—'

'What would Alphenor confess?—' 'Either the miseries and the inconveniences of absolute solitude must be very great, or I must have an uncommon and disgraceful weakness of mind; for the time I have thus devoted, I have not spent in happiness, but in languor and discontent.'

Eudocia shed another tear.

'How kind (said Alphenor) thus to pity the unhappiness of your friend!'

'I cannot (replied Eudocia) accept of a compliment I do not deserve. The tear you observed had something selfish in it. Alphenor can have no uneasiness that is not the weakness of human nature; and could it be any satisfaction for him to know, that his friend has been as miserable in a state of solitude as himself, his own ingenuous confession might countenance her in acknowledging it. * * *

It would be needless to add more to this narrative, than that the union of Alphenor and Eudocia soon followed.

A TRANSIENT SURVEY

OF THE

Several KINGDOMS, COUNTRIES, and INHABITANTS, in AMERICA.

CAROLINA, whose chief town is Charles Town, 3450 miles West from London. The Indians here are a good-natured, generous people, very humane to strangers, patient in want and pain, not easily provoked, very quick of apprehen-

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sion, gay of temper, and men of genius and natural eloquence.

The natives of **VIRGINIA** were found, by the English, upon their first going amongst them, to be most gentle, loving, and faithful; void of all guile and treachery, quick of apprehension, and very ingenious; some bold, some timorous, but all of them cautious and circumspect. The chief town of Virginia is James Town, 32 ro miles west of London.

BALTIMORE is the chief town of the province of Maryland, situated 3000 miles to the west of London. The natives of this country are allowed to be men of quick and sprightly parts; they are active, and indefatigable in their warlike expeditions, hunting, and journies. When any of them are condemned to death, they die like heroes, braving the most exquisite torments, and singing even upon the rack.

PHILADELPHIA, 3100 miles west of London, is the chief town of Pennsylvania, whose Indians excel in liberality; nothing is too good for their friend; they are light of heart, and have strong affections. The people in general are said to be persons of fine natural sagacity; for a man will deserve the name of wise that outwits them in any treaty about a thing they understand. The character of the Indians on the rest of the Continent, belonging to Great-Britain, is pretty much the same. The English in these parts, do, in general, in their behaviour, keep up the deserved good character of their countrymen in Great-Britain.

The Provinces of the Spanish Empire in America. The Indians of Mexico, when the Spaniards went first among them, were a wonderful ingenious, inoffensive, and hospitable people. They did not seem to have been defective, either in point of temperance, fortitude, or military skill: both their policy and stratagems were exquisite. They are admired by travellers for the mutual love and kindness that reigns in their families. Mexico, the capital city, is about 4800 miles south-west of London. The Californians have a great deal of vivacity, and are naturally addicted to railery; as the Spanish missionaries found, when they began first to instruct them; for if they committed any error in their language, they jested and made sport with the reverend Fathers; and if at any time they

explained any point in religion or morality, not conformable to the opinion of the Californians, they would wait for the preacher after sermon, and dispute with him, with a great deal of force and wit: If the Missionaries could give them good reasons for what they advanced, they would submit, and act accordingly.

The Indians of **Ter a Firma**, when the Spaniards went among them, were a very good sort of people. The chief town of this Province is **CARTHAGENA**, 4320 miles South-west from London.

The City of **LIMA**, 5700 miles South-west of London, is the capital of Peru; the greatest part of this city was destroyed by an earthquake, and the inhabitants swallowed up. The natives of Peru, when the Spaniards first discovered them, exceeded most nations of the world, in quickness of wit and strength of judgment. They are also extremely courteous in conversation, and friendly to strangers. They had attained to a great degree of perfection in morality; for their laws, customs, and doctrine of good manners, were their daily study, lesson, and business.

ST. JAGO, the capital of Chili, is 5700 miles South-west of London. The Chilianians are called the bravest people in the new world, and are remarkable for their wit, patience, and fortitude.

The Indians in **PARAGUA** are a brave people, and are become such excellent mechanics, that they make organs, and other musical instruments, as well as those that are carried from Europe; others are watchmakers, painters, and musicians. — The chief town in Paragua is Assumption, 5460 miles South-west of London. The natives, called Amazons, are generally acknowledged to have as much humanity as any people, and a genius for painting and some mechanic arts.

The Portuguese empire in America is called **BRASIL**, and its chief city St. Salvador, 4260 miles South-west of London. The Indians are a kind, tractable, and ingenious people, ready to learn any art or science of the Portuguese; and take nothing so kindly of the reverend Fathers as the instructing their children.

The French empire in America has **FORT LOUIS** for its capital, is 4080 miles West of London. As these provinces resemble, nearly in character, those which lie

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contiguous, I shall not repeat them here, but refer to the character of the inhabitants of Carolina, &c. The chief provinces belonging to the French are Louisiana, New France, and the islands there scattered up and down.

The dominions of the Dutch in America are Surinam, in Guiana; Curassoa, Bonair, and Oraba, near Terra Firma.

The ADVENTURES of

Captain JOHNSON:

From the SPIRITUAL QUIXOTE, a Comic Romance just published.

MY father was a merchant in London; where for some years he carried on a considerable trade; and having only one hopeful son, (the wretch whom you here behold) he early in life retired from business. I was bred up at Westminster, and passed through the school, I believe, with some degree of credit; and was sent to the University with the character of an excellent classic.

My father, hearing that my parts and sprightly genius had introduced me to the best, that is, the most *expensive*, company of the place, gave me very liberal appointments; of which I made a very ungenerous use: for, instead of improving myself in learning, or any valuable accomplishment, the only science, in which I made any progress, was that of a refined luxury and extravagance. And, in short, I was guilty of so many irregularities, that although the Governors of the University were unwilling to expel me, yet they privately admonished my father to remove me from a situation of which I was so far from making any proper use, that it must soon prove equally destructive to my health and to my fortune.

My father, who was too fond of me, thought it prudent to appear ignorant of my bad conduct; and wrote me word, 'that as I had probably, by this time, made a tolerable proficiency in polite learning and philosophy, he was willing to finish my education, by letting me make the tour of Europe.'

Accordingly, with no other governor than an honest Swiss, who served me in the double capacity of a tutor and a valet, I set out upon my travels; to make my observations upon the laws and customs, that is,

to learn the vices and follies, of all the nations in Europe.

During my stay at Paris, I became intimate with an English gentleman of some distinction, who was settled with his family at R——, in Normandy; whither, in consequence of a pressing invitation, I accompanied him to spend part of the summer. As both he and his lady were fond of company, I was soon introduced to people of the best fashion, of both sexes, in that province.

There was a young lady of great beauty, the wife of one of the Members of the Parliament of R——, who was most frequently of our party. She had a gaiety in her temper, and a coquetry in her behaviour; but not more than is common in the married women of that nation.

Lady Ruelle (which was this lady's name) had been something particular, as I fancied, in her behaviour to me. One evening, as we were walking in the gardens of my friend's house, with a large party of polite people, we found ourselves insensibly got into a private walk, detached from the rest of the company. "Monsieur Anglois, (says Lady Ruelle) I long to see Londres, and wish I could meet with an opportunity of going over into England." As I thought this nothing more than unmeaning chat, I imagined the most proper answer was, that I should be very happy in shewing her our metropolis, and wished I might some time or other have that honour. She replied, with a sigh and languishing air, "Ah, I wish, Monsieur, you were sincere in those professions." The manner in which she spoke this, surprized me a little; yet, as a man of gallantry, I could not but repeat my acknowledgments of the honour she did me, and offer to conduct so fair a lady through the world, if she would permit me. She then declared, that she was serious in her intentions, but (as some company now walked towards us) said she would explain herself more at large when she had an opportunity.

Lady Ruelle spoke to me no more that night; but the next time we met, she took occasion to let me know, that her husband used her extremely ill; that she had taken a fancy to me the first time she saw me; and would put herself, and ten thousand pounds in money and jewels, into my hands, if I would accept of the offer.

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Though I was startled at such a proposal, it flattered my vanity so agreeably, that, without reflecting on the consequences, I affected to receive with rapture and gratitude so charming an overture.

Not to be too minute in this detail, she had laid her plan; and was determined, I found, to make her escape from a masquerade-ball, to which we were invited, near the suburbs of R——, the next night but one; when she knew also that her husband would be engaged the whole evening from home. I had time enough to deliberate upon the wickedness and the danger of this expedition; the injury I was going to do the gentleman her husband; and the dishonour I should bring upon my English friend, who had introduced me to them: but, fired with the glory and gallantry of the action, (as things then appeared to me) I was blind to every other consideration.

The next morning, therefore, I sent my trusty Swiss to Dieppe, with orders to get a vessel ready to sail at a minute's notice.

On the night appointed for the masquerade, about ten o'clock, Lady Ruelle appeared, dressed like a young gentleman, in a sort of hunting suit of green and gold, and adorned with not less than five thousand pounds worth of diamonds, which she had contrived to borrow of her husband's relations, under the pretence of this masquerade ball.

My servant had got the post chaise ready, under a mount at the corner of the garden-wall: and, after supper, when the company were separated into parties, Lady Ruelle and I easily contrived to give them the slip. I let myself down; and the Lady, with great courage and alacrity, threw herself into my arms. I put her immediately into the carriage; and we drove off, attended only by the postillion, and by my Swiss, armed with a carbine, with great expedition, for Dieppe.

As the distance, I believe, is not above ten leagues, or about thirty miles, we should probably have reached Dieppe without any interruption; but, upon our coming into a forest, where the road divided, our postillion drove us some miles out of the way, before he pretended to have discovered his mistake. We had just recovered our route, when we were overtaken by three men, well armed, who charged us to

stop, in the King's name. I had time to cock both my pistols: and my servant, who was a bold fellow, bid them produce their credentials; which he received upon the end of his carbine, but shot the poor fellow dead upon the spot: the other two, like cowards as they were, fled with great precipitation; and we proceeded without any further molestation to Dieppe. I there dismissed the Postillion, after presenting him with the post-chaise, which I had bought, for his faithful service; though it appeared afterwards, that he had betrayed us.

When we came to the harbour of Dieppe, we found the ship, which my servant had bespoken, riding at the cable's length, ready to sail. When we came on board, the master of the vessel demanded our passports. I produced one for myself and for my servant: but, when he found I had none for the young gentleman in green and gold, he shook his head, and refused to sail. I immediately cocked my pistol, and threatened to shoot him through the head if he persisted in his refusal. He said, I might do as I pleased; but, if he carried off that young gentleman, whom he suspected to be a person of consequence, he should be hanged the moment he returned to France. I was not yet so abandoned as to take away the life of an honest man, upon so slight a provocation. After trying him again, therefore, with a round sum of money, to no purpose, we were forced to hire another chaise, and, resuming our journey by land, proceeded to Boulogne.

Being come the next day within a few miles of that city, we were again overtaken by a man, whom, from his particular dress, I knew to be an Emissary of the Police. He made a pause, surveyed us all with an eager attention, and then made on, post-haste, towards Boulogne. As I guessed his intention was to apply to the Magistrates of that place, and to take us into custody; I therefore ordered the chaise to halt a little, and, with Lady Ruelle's permission, got out, mounted my servant's horse, changed part of my dress with him, and rode on full speed, to reconnoitre how matters were going in the city.

When I came thither, I found the guards drawn out, and with drums beating, patrolling the streets. I inquired for one of the principal inns; at the door of which I

met

met by accident a young Englishman, whom I knew to have been a school-fellow at Westminster, though he did not recollect me. He immediately told me, by way of news, "that the town was in an uproar, in expectation of seizing an English gentleman, who had carried off a Lady of the first quality from R——, and that he would be secured the moment the chaise came within the gates of this city."

Upon this intelligence, I immediately rode back as fast as I came; and, holding a council with my Swiss and the Postillion, we resolved to turn back out of the great road, and go to a small fishing town, where, the Postillion told us, we had a better chance for hiring a vessel, than at any of the more considerable sea-ports.

When we came thither, I soon met with a petty commander of a fishing-boat, who, for a small sum of money, readily agreed to convey us the next day to Brighthelmstone. But I, foolishly enough, pulling out a purse of fifty louis d'ors, which I offered him if he would sail immediately; at the sight of so extraordinary a sum, the fellow began to be alarmed; and then demanded our pass-ports, which he had never thought of before. I again produced these for myself and my servant; and shewed him a written paper, as a pass-port for the Lady. As the man could not read, he said, he would go with us to the Curé, or Minister of the parish, to have the pass-ports examined.

The Curé had a gentleman-like appearance. I took him aside, and told him, I would express my gratitude to him, in any manner he should name, if he would assure the master of the vessel that the pass-port was good, and prevail upon him to sail immediately. The Curé replied, with a very serious air,—that he would not, for the whole world, abuse the confidence which his parishioners placed in him, by deceiving them in a matter of such importance; but very politely offered us an asylum in his house for that evening. As we had no alternative, we gladly accepted the Curé's offer, that we might have time to consider what step was next to be taken.

It was now the third night since Lady Ruelle had been in bed; and, though she had slept a little in a post-chaise, she could not but be very much fatigued: with much difficulty, therefore, I prevailed on her

Ladyship to go to bed. And having myself sat up till about twelve o'clock with the honest Curé, I lay down, and had just composed myself, on a settee in the parlour, when I was awaked by an alarm, that the house was beset by the Officers of the Police.

As we had reason to apprehend this, we had taken care to barricade the approach, and were determined to stand a siege.— There was no way that they could attack us, but from a little garden near the parlour window. I had armed my servant with his carbine, and myself with a pistol in each hand; and ordered him to keep his fire as long as possible: but he, having a fair mark at one of them by the light of the moon, let fly, and killed him on the spot. But four more immediately marched up to the window, armed with blunderbusses. I fired one pistol without effect. Upon which, they rushing in upon us immediately, and threatening to fire if we did not surrender, it would have been madness to make any further resistance.

Lady Ruelle and I were seized, and put under a guard till near the morning; when we were placed back to back, and our hands bound behind us, in a sort of covered wagon; and in this manner conveyed to R——.

Lady Ruelle, however, had the generosity, at my request, to slip her watch, and a pearl necklace of considerable value, into my Swiss's hands; with which, by my orders, he contrived to make his escape into his own country; and this circumstance was of great weight upon my trial.

I could not but remark one particular in Lady Ruelle, quite in the French style.— In the midst of her distress, her eyes swimming in tears, and when she could not but dread the consequence of this adventure, she ran up to the glass, adjusted her head-dress, and put some *rouge*, or red paint, upon her cheeks.

Upon our arrival at R——, I was sent a cloie prisoner to the castle. From thence I was soon brought to my trial before the Parliament of R——; and, as one of their Members was the injured party, I should have been severely dealt with, if they could have proved either the murder or the robbery directly upon me: but, as my servant was principal in the former, and also the only witness in the latter, and he

had

had made his escape; and, as the Lady appeared rather more culpable than myself, having really seduced me; the chief party concerned seemed willing to drop the further prosecution of the affair; especially as my good friend at R—— had made a very powerful application, by means of our Ambassador, at the Court of Versailles.—So, after some little confinement, I was dismissed, with orders to quit the kingdom in three days time; with which I cheerfully complied; and the poor Lady was immediately dispatched to a Convent.

Upon further inquiry into the cause of this Lady's violent resolution, I found she had a suspicion of the most horrid kind—that her husband, who was much older than herself, had an intrigue with her own mother.

On my arrival in England, I found my wicked course of life had contributed to shorten my father's days, and my extravagance greatly diminished his fortune: for he was dead; and, instead of the assistance which I had always depended upon, he left about two thousand pounds, to support me and my mother, who is now but a middle-aged woman, though from grief and vexation, become very sickly and infirm.

Not to be tedious, I found myself in immediate possession of no more than five hundred pounds; with which I purchased a Lieutenantancy, and am now doing penance in country quarters, strutting about in my red coat and cockade; but really a prey to melancholy, and tortured with reflecting upon those vices which have brought me so early in life to this wretched situation.

PICTURES of the TIMES.

COUNTRY SQUIRES.

A Country Squire is a gentleman in a remote province; who resides constantly at the mansion-house of his ancestors, which he keeps in tolerable repair, makes a new pair of gates, and builds a summer-house at the corner of his garden. Relying upon his silver spurs, and a tight boot, he makes one attempt towards gaining a rich heiress; but not succeeding, he marries his maid, gets an heir to his estate, dies, and is forgotten.

He visits the metropolis once in his lifetime, and takes up his quarters at the Ram in Smithfield: goes to visit his old aunt, from whom he has great expectations;

who, for the credit of the family, makes him put on a sword, which gets between his legs, and almost oversets him. He therefore walks through Fleet-street in his boots: a sharper jostles him into the kennel; another snatches his whip from under his arm, under pretence of revenging the affront, and makes clear off with it: gives five and six-pence for a pair of buck-skin gloves, double-stitched; returns into the country, with a terrible idea of the extravagance and tricks of the town; and (tho' a constant dupe to the knavish cunning of his tenants, and the exorbitant gains of a country shop-keeper) detests every thing that bears the name of London, except The London Evening-Post, and the London carrier that brings him down a barrel of oysters at Christmas. Such is the character of a Country Squire.

MAGISTRATES.

I no man call a fool or ass;

'Tis his own conscience holds the glass.

GAY.

MIDAS, we are told, was a *Justice of Peace and Syorum*, and for the acuteness of his penetration, the soundness of his judgment, and the equity of his decision, was rewarded by Apollo—with the Ears of an Ass! Here was a pattern of the Just-Ases of old! "But this is not the case now, Sir." Why, really, one would scarcely wish so horrible a sight as for the Magistrates of these times to have their abilities rewarded in a manner similar to Midas's. "True; the sight would be droll enough; but you mistake me.—I mean to ask, if any of Midas's brethren distribute justice in the present times."—Indeed, 'tis hardly safe to tell you. But I remember what my father used to say of them—

"My father, you must know, was a reputable farmer in the North of Wiltshire, and often thought he had reason to complain of the unequal distribution of justice. His friend, the Curate, had been at law with some of his parishioners for tythes, and was much in the same predicament.—They often met to drink a bottle of October, and thus my father used to express himself:

"I often think, Mr. Gizzard (for that was the Curate's name) of the nothingness of the times, particularly with regard to the legislative power. Our Ministers are slaves

to self-interest, and neglect the *public* cause for their *private* emolument. The treasury, that used to hold a large supply for the calls of war, is empty now, and we are forced to keep a peace on any terms. The exports to foreign kingdoms are stopped; manufactures are decreasing, and trade becomes stagnated; the poor increase in number upon us at every parish rate; and the Magistrates, who should defend our property from the encroachments of villains, are——Oh, Mr. Gizzard, what dreadful times are these! All things have lost their substance, and nothing but the shadow now remains of what was great and good. In the days of our wise forefathers, the profession of the law was held a sacred function, and no one could trample with impunity on the rights of another:—old Matthew Hale (God bless him) was a good old man; and it warms my heart with joy to read the memorable acts of his life; but now——whenever I compare the days of our ancestors with the days of ourselves, I cannot help joining with the Welchman at Gloucester.”—The Curate being desirous to know to what my father alluded, he proceeded with the following story:

“About seven years ago, it was, that a poor, honest, simple Welchman, brought his son (a boy about 18) to Gloucester, at the time of the Assizes, and was naturally led, with the rest of the crowd on those occasions, to the Court. The boy having never seen a Court of Justice before, was greatly struck with the appearance of the Judge, and after deliberating with himself some time on the oddity of the scene before him, asked his father, “What was that creat old man, with hur pig wig, and hur cown, and hur pelt, and a skin about hur shoulders.” To which old Taffy answered, “Cot plefs hur! it is an old o’man, that comes here twice a year to take a nap, and then tells the shury hur dream.”

The VIRTUES of TEA considered.

IT is in general imagined, that all the different sorts of Tea, brought us from China, and other parts of East-India, are leaves produced by the same plant, but gathered at various seasons, and cured in a different manner. The infusion of the fresh gathered leaves is not wholesome; but they lose in a great measure, if not entirely,

their noxious qualities, by being hastily dried on warm iron plates, after being carefully picked. By this means their fine flavour is preserved, which, if the exsiccation was not assisted by art, would be greatly injured, if not totally lost.

Infusions of Tea are manifestly astringent, and, as such, have been supposed to strengthen and brace up the solids; but experience does not countenance their possessing this quality. The immoderate use of tea is peculiarly hurtful in disorders and constitutions, wherein corroborants are most serviceable; in cold habits, cachexies, chloroses, dropies, and debilities of the nervous system. Both the green and bohea teas have an agreeable smell, and a lightly bitterish subastringent taste. Neuman suspects, perhaps not without reason, that the brown colour and the flavour of the bohea sorts are introduced by art; though some, on the other hand, imagine the bohea to be pure, unsophisticated tea, and that the green gets its tinge and flavour by being dried on plates of copper; if so, it must be the most unwholesome of the two. Infusions of tea, as dietetic articles, have been very much commended by some, and condemned by others; and notwithstanding they are so frequently used, their real effects are scarcely as yet clear. When moderately used, they are for the most part seemingly innocent; in some cases, salutary; in others, apparently prejudicial. They dilute thick juices, and quench thirst more effectually, and pass off by the natural emunctories more freely, than mere watry fluids: they revive the spirits in heaviness and sleepiness, and seem to counteract the operation of inebriating liquors.

Teas, with a solution of chalybeate vitriol, strike an inky blackness. They give out their smell and taste, both to water and spirituous menstrua: to water the green sorts communicate their green tincture, and the bohea their brown: to rectified spirit they both impart a fine deep green. Or gently drawing off the menstrua from the filtrated tinctures, the water is found to elevate nearly all the peculiar flavour of the tea, while rectified spirit brings over little or nothing, leaving the smell as well as the taste concentrated in the extracts. Both extracts are very considerably astringent, and not a little ungrateful; the spirituous most so.

Upon

Upon the whole, infusions of tea seem best adapted to persons of a good constitution, but who require, through want of exercise, proper diluters. It is said in China to be the common beverage even of porters who carry loads; who, so far from finding any prejudice from the constant use of it, by experience know that it raises their spirits, quenches thirst, abates their hunger, and enables them to pass with vigour a day of hard labour. Whether this is the same kind of tea as is brought to Europe, remains a doubt. The great danger in using the infusion of this herb seems to be taking it too hot, too strong, too frequently, in too large quantities, or on an empty weak stomach.

The Use of

HORSE CHESNUTS.

THESE nuts are much used in France, and in Swisserland, in whitening not only of hemp and flax, but also of silk and wool. They contain a soapy juice, fit for washing of linens and stuffs, for milling of caps and stockings, &c. and for fulling of stuffs and cloths.

Twenty nuts are sufficient for five quarts of water. They must be first peeled, which can be done by children, then rasped or dried, and ground in a malt mill, or any other common steel mill: the water must be soft, either rain or river water, for hard well water will by no means do. When the nuts are rasped or ground, they must be steeped in the water quite cold, which soon becomes frothy, (as it does with soap) and then turns white as milk: it must be well stirred at first with a stick; and then, after standing some time to settle, must be strained, or poured off quite clear.

Linen washed in this liquor takes an agreeable light sky-blue colour; and afterwards it should be rinsed in clear running water. It takes spots out of both linen and woollen, and never damages or injures the clothes.

Poultry will eat the meal of them, if it is steeped in hot water, and mixed with an equal quantity of pollard. The nuts also are eat by some cows, and without hurting their milk; but they are excellent for horses, whose wind is hurt.

The UTILITY of mowing WHEAT.

AS the harvest approaches, and the weather is catching, it may not be amiss to acquaint all such as are concerned in Wheat Lands, with the following remarks.

On the banks of the Rhine, and almost all over Flanders, and lately in France, they mow their Wheat with a *scythe*, instead of reaping it with a *sickle*, because it is better and more easily performed, and at much less expence. A good reaper in France will cut six tenths of an English acre in a day; a good Mower will cut an English acre and a half in a day.

The reaper leaves stubble six or eight inches high; the Mower leaves his stubble but two inches high, by which he gains more straw.

In France, to reap 112 acres of wheat, English measure, with a sickle, they commonly allow ten men 20 days, that is 200 days of one man. To cut the same quantity of acres of wheat with a scythe, they allow seven mowers and seven binders ten days, equal to 140 days of one man, by which they save 60 days work. Besides that the binders have less wages than the mowers and reapers, for the binders are children of twelve or fifteen years of age, old women, and men not able to stand hard work; the mower therefore does three fifths more than the reaper.

The different postures of the mower and reaper are to be attended to. That of the former is much the easier, and his hands are not so much exposed to thistles, &c. and when wheat is mowed, the corn sheds less.

And as the mower can dispatch his business in so much less time, that method is more peculiarly serviceable in an *uncertain* and *catching* season.

The mowing wheat is more particularly useful where the ground does not lie flat, but is raised in ridges or lands, as is generally the custom in Northamptonshire, and also in rainy seasons, for the ear will not be so apt to shoot.

The straw, indeed, as being in a greater quantity, is more difficult to thrash, but then the additional straw sufficiently pays for that labour.

And after the wheat is mowed, the grass sooner grows up again, and the stubble does not prick the nostrils of the cattle, as it does when it is reaped.

It is true, the scythes used are of a different

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ent form from those commonly used in England. The blade of every one of them is six inches shorter than that of the English scythe.

The French is a direct cradle scythe, only the handle is quite straight.

Now, when the crop is cut, it may not be amiss to shew how it is stacked, to preserve it from the wet, in which situation it may remain in the field six weeks or two months, without any danger from the inclemency of the weather.

They set one sheaf upright with the ears uppermost, and round that they place a circle of many other sheaves with the ears uppermost, inclining on the first sheaf; and, when so placed, they look like the figure of an extinguisher. Then they lay an horizontal circle of sheaves, with all the ears in the center, and cover those ears in the middle with a loose sheaf or two.

Thus placed, they are protected from all wet, and may remain in the field six weeks or two months, as safe as they would be in a barn: and this method of stacking has been adopted in Sussex, Surry, Kent, and many other southern counties, to the great benefit of the farmers and the public.

Your's, RUSTICUS.

STRICTURES ON THE BEHAVIOUR of PERSONS at CHURCH.

My house shall be called the house of prayer.

MARK xi. 17.

AMONGST the many points of good behaviour, which are daily recommended for our practice, there is none, I think, deserves a more serious attention, than the conducting ourselves decently at our devotions. The Church, it should be remembered, is the House of God alone; and when we enter that sacred shrine, it should be our endeavour to divest our hearts of every worldly principle, and to prepare ourselves for the true performance of religious worship.

The importance of that duty which calls us to Church, should be well and seriously considered, before we venture to approach it—for it would be better that we professed not the Religion of Christ, and totally absented ourselves from his worship, than to

bear the name of Christian, and convert its solemn rites to mockery and derision.

In an age so much improved in polite and useful studies, and in a kingdom so distinguished for sense and solid judgment, as this we now live in, it would naturally be expected that Religion would here find an asylum; that it would be “cherished as the young plant,” so that it might flourish, and extend its happy influence over neighbouring countries. The example of a people so enlightened, might thus promote the cause of Religion; the weak and ignorant would gather strength and knowledge, that the Lord might be glorified in the number of his servants;—but alas! instead of *these* good effects; we find Religion treated with contempt by almost all ranks of people; the Churches frequented more for shew than devotion; and so much indecency intermixed with the religious ceremonies of our modern worshippers, that we become the pity or the scorn of other nations; and the cause of our Creator is despised for our neglect.

In the sacred rites of *other* nations,—and even among *some* Dissenters from the Mother Church in England,—the congregations are for the most part serious and devout; attentive to fulfil the task incumbent on them, and cheerfully joining in those praises, prayers, and thanksgivings which they owe to their Almighty Father.—The Jews themselves, whose *moral* principles we hold in little estimation, are nevertheless strict observers of their Religion. Nations which are spoken of as Barbarians in other respects, are yet found to be constant to their Religious tenets; and their modes of worship, however awkward and uncouth, are yet the genuine effects of a Religious mind. But amongst the assemblies of those persons who “profess and call themselves Christians,” (I mean those who frequent the Churches in England) the greater part of them are so negligent and remiss in those duties, that we are stigmatized by Foreigners, as hypocrites in Religion, confessing God with our tongues, but denying him in our hearts.

What stranger, let me ask, can be present at our public devotions, and not be struck with horror and astonishment at that carelessness which is so visible in the countenances of our Church-frequenters. Can he form any favourable opinion of the mo-

ral principles of a people, whose religious ones are a mere empty shew? On my own part, I blush for the impiety of my countrymen, when I think of the indifference with which they treat the service of their God. It has been observed, and is recorded by an elegant English writer, that "If a variety of attitudes in the same part of worship, and an attention to every thing but their prayers, be the marks of true devotion, the English are the most meritorious devotees he ever beheld;" and true it is, that we have too long deserved this stigma.

This misconduct of persons at Church is owing to a number of reasons; of which I shall mention only a few:

When Religion is made a trade off, and Ecclesiastical Preferments are obtained by Interest, in preference to Merit;—when the luxurious Pluralist grasps at yet another living, to make his annual income a compleat fool, that he may vie in dignity and in extravagance with the Squire of his parish, the Cure of Souls becomes neglected, and the task of fulfilling the duty of his station becomes too burthensome to be attended to.—A Curate is of course employed, and the care of *four* Churches is committed to him, for the *ample* salary of *forty pounds a year*! Hence it happens that the service is hastily run over; and too often with a peculiar inattention, a dull monotony, or the whining of a school boy at his lesson. The congregation too easily catch the infection, and from the example of their Minister, they learn to gabble over their printed prayers, while their minds are engaged on other subjects.

This, I must beg leave to say, is one great inconvenience, arising from an exact and settled Form of Prayer. In the Meetings of Protestant Dissenters, (where little difference is observed, but with respect to this Form) the attention of the hearers is naturally excited by the extempore prayers of their Pastors, whose addresses to the throne of Divine Grace carry with them evident marks of being the devout effusions of their hearts. This, I have known by frequent experience, is a certain way of working on the mind of an auditor, and he is more easily induced to join in such a mode of worship, than by the repetition of a printed Form of Prayer, though planned and settled by the ablest writers.

Another cause is the difference which we too oft observe between the practice and the doctrine of our modern preachers.—When we hear a Sermon on Humility, from a pride-swollen Vicar; on Brotherly Love, from a Litigious one; on Charity from the Avaricious, and on Temperance and Sobriety from an Epicure and a Wine-Bibber;—if we are so patient as to hear it, we go no further; for who (especially the weaker sort) can well obey the admonitions of a man, who is himself a slave to the vices he inveighs against. So far, I am persuaded, is the practice of Religion necessary for the preacher of it, that few, if any, can prevail with themselves to abstain from a vice, which even their Teacher cannot keep from. Nor is it any wonder that little regard is paid to the Sermons of a man, whose Words and Actions do not agree.

The last circumstance which I shall here take notice of, is the enormous height to which our passion for Dress is now arrived, and which may well be deemed an interrupter of Devotion in our Religious Assemblies.

If we examine into the precepts of the Holy Scriptures, with respect to Dress, we shall find that they require nothing more from us than Cleanliness and Decency.—They discourage every superfluity of dress, and particularly forbid us to set our minds upon it; yet how few there are by whom this rule is observed! The Frequenters of the Church seem actuated by the same motives as those of a Drawing-room, and come there for little or no other purpose, than to see and be seen. Nor is their employment confined to *sight* alone.—The tongue, even in that sacred place, finds enough to do in Compliments, Enquiries, and Observations; censuring the dress of one, or applauding that of another; making appointments for a visit or a rout, and in other equally trivial matters;—neglecting for these the solemnity of that service which the Almighty has required of them.

The first great remedy for these evils is what, I fear, will never be accomplished—I mean, the appointing Ministers for their own merit only. The channel to ecclesiastical honours is, like every other road to preferment, only to be passed by pecuniary means; and there is no probability of any other avenue being opened. Ministers, there-

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therefore, very naturally will seek for livings, as farmers for an estate; that of greatest value will be most esteemed, and every other consideration will be absorbed in that. Thus their Parishioners will be neglected, and their weekly service be deemed an irksome task, rather than a pleasing one; their public prayers will be a labour, and their sermons an incoherent jargon, read, but not *addressed* to their audience, and neither *coming*, nor *seeming* to come, from the heart.

But that part of the remedy which more particularly concerns the congregation, is certainly within their own reach. A very short acquaintance with the word of God will convince them how erroneous they are in making a mock of his worship; and a little serious reflection with themselves upon the nature of that awful scene which the Almighty honours with his presence, will model their hearts to a form of true devotion—and from profaning his laws, and his service, they will become his true and faithful servants. Go then, my good friends; let the Bible be your guide; let pride be banished from your minds, and leaving the pomp of outward dress, endeavour to *worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness*.

MODESTUS.

For the MONTHLY MISCELLANY.

AN ESSAY ON

NATURAL AND ACQUIRED ACCOMPLISHMENTS.

To every art let Nature point the way.

AT a time when mankind seem more prone to imitate the foibles than virtues of each other; when the chief emulation is, who shall by art render himself most conspicuously ridiculous, and the only distinction remaining to point out the various stations of life, is, that the first classes of people take care to be foremost in the train of ridicule, and the richness of the garment is no longer a mark of distinction—so that it is difficult by their trappings to know my Lord from his Groom or Footman, or her Grace from her waiting Abigail—In short, when Art prevails over Nature, it will not be improper to consider these two competitors for our attention, and, examining their

several merits, fix on them a *proper esteem and patronage*.

Nature, simple and unadorned, will give the most lasting pleasure to our senses; and where left to her own conduct, will continue longest unsullied.

Art, used as an embellisher of the powers of Nature, will attain every end that can be desired; and although Reason can easily set proper bounds to its application, yet I may thus far venture to add, that less than we usually meet with, more properly applied, would have a far better effect.

How incessant is the toil of the more amiable part of mankind, merely to render themselves less pleasing, less agreeable! the touch of the pencil may at a distance strike us with astonishment; but, on a nearer review, we see the deception, and are disgusted at it; and, even while they foolishly imitate, they censure it. Nor will the conviction that their natural delicacy of features falls daily a prey to its malignant power, prevent their pursuing this IGNIS FATUUS, till they are fixed the daily subjects of unnatural daubings, or stand confessed hideous spectacles of their own folly. This practice in youth is nothing less than sacrilege, and in old age is the child of the most abject folly.

Where shall we now find the variegated tints of the lily and rose, which Nature promiscuously strews over the countenances of health, youth, and beauty? In vain we range through the sphere of a modern drawing-room—they are now only to be seen where rustic simplicity can boast a shelter from the severity of the seasons, and remains untainted by the folly of the multitude—where Nature is suffered undisturbed to nurture the opening buds of blooming health.

A moment's reflection will convince every candid enquirer, that Art, (although the so much admired rival of Nature) is a false intruder; the child of Folly, reared and cherished by Vanity; void of any real self-inherent beauties, she fixes on Novelty as her basis, and on that false foundation raises her towering merit.

With what contempt are all Would-be's (persons aiming at things beyond their sphere) received! Dress, learning, behaviour, and every acquisition, is to be naturalized, e're it fits easy on us. In vain does the tinkered shopman endeavour at his Lordship's gait, bow, and true politeness;

grimace and awkward gesture sit on every limb, and in endeavouring beyond his natural powers, he becomes ridiculous, who, by a proper carriage and dress, would have been agreeable—and the vain mimic, like Bishop's Daw, is soon known to be a poor thief.

Having considered the influence of Art, as far as it affects the adorning of our persons, let us consider it as an embellishment to our minds.

Here, where it is most useful, it is least attended to, and therefore insufficiently or improperly used. This leads me to a consideration of that part of modern education which concerns our common appearance in life, and which may be divided into liberal and pedantic. The former is gained by a proper attention to Nature in finding out our talents, and by art cultivating, so as to improve them to the greatest perfection.—While the latter, inconsiderate of any basis on which to fix, eagerly rushes on towards the glazing appearance that strikes its view, however foreign to the natural genius of the pursuer; and thus losing the stamp of real merit, which the former fixes on us, holds us forth as objects of common ridicule.

At the same time that you desist from ridiculous emulation, avoid over negligence; and, if you must err, let it be on the side of the former—for the man who pays too little attention to his dress and appearance, is in greater danger of disgrace than the over-anxious man.

Low company produces mean errors; and as we judge of men and things from our senses, and the hints of others, the man whose conversation has been confined to a collier, will be lost in more refined company. Our talents are to conduct us thro' life, and as they are cultivated, we shall be received. Above all things, avoid that contempt which must arise from this retrospect of our actions—that by our behaviour our dress is beyond our station, and we have taken more pains to adorn our bodies than to enlarge our minds.

One great disgust a serious mind receives in mixed company, is the preposterous endeavours of some minds, grown grey in folly, to imitate their juvenile companions in their appearance. We oft see fifty vainly endeavour to appear as young and

becoming as fifteen—for this sole reason, because her mind is as uncultivated as at that age. For shame! leave to fifteen, the young, the gay, and lively—and let fifty be the grave, circumpet, and maternal.

In short, whoever would gain due admiration, let their behaviour be natural, and their appearance equal to their station.—Cloud not your accomplishments with the false glare of affectation, which too often is seen since masks prevail, and each man takes that which is most foreign to his heart.

PHILOCOLOS.

SIMPLICITY the best EXPRESSION of our SUBLIMEST THOUGHTS.

Exemplified in several INSTANCES.

MR. Marmontel says—"That sometimes the most plain and common word suffices for sublimity; it often wants words, and is expressed by action alone.—He cites instances in both cases, some of which are the following:

"La Fontaine, the celebrated French Fabulist, a day or two after losing his generous patroness, Madame de la Sabliere, whose house was his home, met his acquaintance, M. d'Hervart: "My dear La Fontaine (said that worthy man to him) I have heard of your misfortune, and was going to propose your coming to live with me." *I was going to you*—answered La Fontaine.

"Some old soldiers going to be shot for a breach of discipline, at their passing by Marshal Turenne, pointed to the scars on their faces and breasts. What speech could come up to this? and it had the desired effect.

"Mr. L——, after a battle, finds a grenadier sitting at the foot of a tree, wrapped up in a cloak, who very composedly said to him;—"Noble General, order these wounded men to be taken care of, as their lives may be still saved."—"Well but, friend, (said the Officer) have you no thought about yourself?"—"The Grenadier answered, with drawing up his cloak, and shewing both his thighs carried off in the middle.

"Two soldiers went to see Marshal Saxe's tomb; after standing some time in

all the silence of awe and grief, each drew his sabre, and passed it over the stone which covers that great man's remains, then went away without speaking a word. Let any one try to express more energetically the confidence and regard of those two men towards him."

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A complete Account of the FETE CHAMPETRE celebrated at the OAKS in SURREY, the seat of the Right Hon. Lord STANLEY, on Thursday the 9th of June, on occasion of his Lordship's approaching marriage with Lady BETTY HAMILTON.

THE noble family, at whose expence the above feast was prepared, being desirous to indulge the curious in general with a sight of some part of the rural festivity, as well as the select party who had cards of invitation, gave orders that the gate upon the *Dorset* only should be opened, and that the company in their fancy dresses should pass along the front lawn, by which means the curiosity of thousands would be indulged.

The company began to make their appearance about half past six o'clock, and continued pouring in till past nine; as soon as any carriage had set down a party, and they had got within the gate which led upon the lawn, they were saluted by French horns placed in a retreat so obscure as not to be observed by the company. The front lawn soon became crowded with fancy dresses, and the ladies by their pastoral appearance and simplicity made beauty appear with additional charms, and by their elegant fancy habits meant certainly to outvie each other in taste and magnificence.

About eight o'clock a signal was given for the company to attend the *Masque* on the *Back Lawn*; accordingly General Burgoyne, who was the principal manager and conductor, and for whose skill and abilities on the occasion the greatest compliments are due, came forward, and conducted the nobility and others the visitors through the house to the voluptuous scene on the back lawn. No sooner did the rural picture present itself, but amazement seized the whole company; the first thing that caught their attention was the concourse of

people on each side the road, and the branches of trees bending with the weight of heads that appeared as thick as codlings on a tree in a plentiful season. At the upper end of the back lawn was a most superb and beautiful *orangerie*, or plantation of orange trees, intermixed with a great variety of valuable green-house plants; behind the *orangerie* lay concealed a capital band of music, under the sole direction of Mr. Barthelemon, the composer of the *Masque*. On the right from the company, swains appeared in fancy dresses, amusing themselves at the game of Ninepins, while shepherdesses, neatly attired, were at the swing. On the left side were other swains with their bows and arrows, shooting at a bird which had perched itself on a Maypole; while others were shewing their agility by dancing and kicking at a *tambour de basque*, which hung, decorated with ribbonds, from a bough of a tree.—In short, every rural pastime was exhibited.

In the centre of the *orangerie* sat Mrs. Barthelemon and Mr. Vernon, making wreaths of flowers, and continued in that employment till after the company had taken their seats upon the benches, placed in a circular form on the green. As soon as the ladies and gentlemen were thus arranged, two Cupids went round with a basket of the most rich flowers, and presented each lady with an elegant *bouquet*; the gentlemen had likewise a similar present.—When the Cupids had distributed the flowers, nimble shepherdesses supplied their baskets with fresh assortments.—Thus whilst the attention of the company was taken with admiring the agility and pretty manner of these little attendants accommodating the nobility and others with their nosegays, they were on a sudden surprised with the harmonious sound from the instrumental band, which being conveyed to the company through the Orange Plantation and Shrubbery, created a most happy and pleasing effect—and which was still the more heightened by the company not being able to distinguish from what quarter it came.

This symphony, whose sweetness of sound had given every face a smile of approbation, being ended, Mr. Vernon got up, and with a light and rustic air, called the nymphs and swains to celebrate the festivity of the day, inform-

informing them that *Stanley*, as Lord of the Oaks, had given the invitation, and on that account he commanded their appearance to join the festive song and dance. After this air followed a grand chorus, which was composed in so remarkable a stile, and carried with it so much jollity, that the company could scarce be prevailed upon to keep their seats. Next followed a dance by Sylvans; then a song by Mrs. Barthelmon; afterwards a different dance by the whole assembly of *Figurantes*, was executed in a masterly stile, and was succeeded by a most elegant and pleasing duet by Mrs. Barthelmon and Mr. Vernon, which concluded with a dance. The next air consisted of four verses, sung by Mr. Vernon; at the end of each line was a chorus. The dance of the Sylvans continued during the whole time of the chorus, and had an excellent effect.

Thus ended the first *Masque*, which the public had an opportunity of seeing in some degree as well as the visitors; and the loud acclamations of joy at the conclusion were a convincing proof of the high opinion entertained by the nobility and gentry of this rural festival. The company in general expressed infinite satisfaction at the great and lively abilities of the composer, who shewed great taste and genius throughout the whole performance. Much merit was also due to Mr. Vernon and Mrs. Barthelmon; particularly the former, whose abilities were not confined solely to the musical part allotted to him, but were particularly serviceable on the occasion, in decorating the trees with festoons of flowers, assisted by the gardener and his attendants.

This being over, the company amused themselves with walking about till the temporary room was illuminated, and upon a signal given, another procession was made. Lord Stanley, supported by Lady Betty Hamilton, the Queen of the Oaks, and Miss Stanley, led the way, the rest of the company following two by two. The noble visitors were first conducted through a beautiful and magnificent octagon hall, with transparent windows, painted suitable to the occasion: at the end of the great room hung six superb curtains, supposed to cover the same number of large windows; they were of crimson colour, richly orna-

mented with deep gold fringe. Colonnades appeared on each side the room, with wreaths of flowers running up the columns; and the whole building was lined chair-back high with white Persian and gold fringe: the seats around were covered with deep crimson. The company amused themselves with dancing minuets and cotillons till half past eleven, when an explosion, similar to the going off of a large quantity of rockets, put the whole lively group into a consternation. This was occasioned by a signal given for the curtains, which we have before described, to fly up and exhibit to the company a large supper room, with tables spread with the most costly dainties, all hot and tempting. The company took their seats in an instant, without the least interruption, and partook of the entertainment. They no sooner appeared satisfied, than the whole was removed instantaneously, and a handsome dessert spread on the tables, without their being able to account for the sudden change. When the ladies seemed tired with this second piece of luxury, the band were heard tuning their instruments in the octagon hall. This was another signal for the company to leave the supper-room and adjourn to the ball-room. No sooner was the above chamber cleared, when again to the astonishment of all present, down flew the large curtains, and made the ball-room appear in its first state of elegance.

The ceremony of arranging the company next took place, and was executed by the General, who having placed Lady Betty Hamilton in the center, formed the rest of the company into a circular groupe. This done, a Druid of the Oaks, represented by Capt. Pigott, came forward from the octagon hall, with a few complimentary lines, suitable to the occasion, summoning the Fauns and Wood-Nymphs to attend the ceremony within. A grand chorus was then sung by the Nymphs, Fauns, and Sylvans, led on by Cupids. After this chorus, and her speech by the Druid. Mrs. Barthelmon, in the character of a Wood-Nymph, sung a pleasing air, the words in praise of conjugal felicity. This produced, at the conclusion, a *chaconne*, which was executed by eight principal dancers with great ease and agility. The Druid made another speech, and having finished, Mr.

Vernon sung an air in praise of the Oak. Next was an alemande, by sixteen principal dancers, and afterwards a speech relative to the Oaks, by the Druid. Mrs. Barthelemon and Mr. Vernon then sung a duet, which was likewise in praise of the Oak, its prosperity, and advantage, finishing with a few complimentary lines to Lady Betty by the Druid, and a grand chorus of vocal and instrumental music. During which, a device in transparency was introduced; two hymeneal torches lighted, on the top a shield representing the Hamilton crest, (an oak with a saw through it, and a ducal coronet); after a chorus, the Druid, Fauns, and Wood-nymphs went to the altar; and two Cupids, the Cupid of Love, and the Hymeneal Cupid, ascending the steps, crowned the shield with the wreath of Love and Hymen. Thus ended the second part; of which, by this description, the reader will judge the elegance and grandeur.

The third part was opened by minuets, composed on the occasion, by the Earl of Kelly. Lord Stanley and Lady Betty Hamilton opened the second ball, and the rest of the nobility danced in their turns; when the minuets were ended, country-dances struck up, and continued till past three o'clock. The company were highly entertained with the illuminations in the gardens, which had a fine effect from the front wing of the house.—Facing the temporary room was erected a large Ionic portico, supported by four large transparent columns, of a bright pink colour. On a scroll on the pediment were the following words: “Sacred to propitious Venus.” In the center of the pediment was a shield, with the Hamilton and Stanley arms quartered, the whole supported by a band of Cupid, who appeared to great advantage by the assistance of four pyramids of lights. Several pyramids of lights were likewise erected in different parts of the garden.

The whole of this festival was conducted by General Burgoyne. The company were so highly pleased, that they did not part till four in the morning. Those who had been at *Fêtes Champêtres* in France, declared they never saw any one equal to Lord Stanley's; and the whole country testified a joy on the occasion, which no words can describe.

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The SEARCH after PEACE.

A T A L E.

Happy's the Hermit in his lonely cell;—
Rich discontent is but a glorious Hell.

ONCE on a time an odd adventure happened amongst the Gods. The whole empyreum was in an uproar;—all the celestial inhabitants were at high words, and it was much to be feared that bloody noses would ensue: and what, think you, was the source or origin of all that bustle and clamour? Why, nothing but a paltry, terrestrial little town, which some, it seems, were inclinable to have totally demolished; and some, on the other hand, were strenuous to preserve. They grew hot, and flew into a passion. Neither side would hearken to reason, but both abounded with keen, sarcastical reflections, and ill-natured noise and nonsense. In short, the quarrel was not to be decided amicably; matters were carried to so high a pitch, that they were all up in arms. Pluto brandished his pitchfork, Pallas shook her ægis, and Neptune waved his trident.

What is it, cried Jupiter,—hearing such a noise and confusion—what is it, Gentlemen and Ladies, that you all aim at? Let us hear the ground-work of this warm debate. Are you inclined to see the destruction of another Troy? What! are you all at daggers-drawing again? Are you fond of having it universally believed, that the inhabitants of the celestial regions are no better, nor worse, than a pack of worthless, capricious, and turbulent Deities?—Have not the tenants of the lower regions (a race of mortals only) stigmatised us enough, and exposed our superior follies already?

Holla! Madam Peace! where have you concealed yourself, or where are you to run when your presence is of such high importance? Come forth, I charge you.—Holla, Madam Peace! I say, make your personal appearance this moment, or—

Jove, however, might threaten as hard as he pleased, might thunder about their ears, and bawl till his heart ached, no Peace was to be found, no tale or tidings to be heard of her in heaven. Found she must be, and found she shall be. Go, Mercury, bid he, (Mercury being then at his elbow) go, and put on the best pair of wings you are

mafter

matter of: I can't conceive where the girl has hid herself. Take your flight immediately to the lower region, and the moment you find her, bring her before me with a sissutari.

Away flies Mercury, in the twinkling of a bedstaff, in obedience to the higher powers, and arrives in a few seconds at the French Court, quite out of breath. All the world knows that the Louvre is the mansion of Politeness, and the God never doubted but that his commission was as good as executed, and that he should infallibly find the object of his search among the courtiers; for he very well knew, that, amongst them, there was a world of complaisance—There, he was sensible, that they flattered, cajoled, and caressed each other, and that there the whole art of pleasing was not only studied, but practised in its utmost beauty and extent. There, in short, he was no stranger to their large promises of friendly aid and assistance in times of need; and of the high compliments that were made there at all their visits.

So far so good, said Hermes to himself; I shall have no occasion to beat the hoof any farther, I presume;—the fatigue is in a manner over.—But, alas! he soon found, by woeful experience, that he reckoned without his host, and that his sanguine expectations had but a slippery sort of a bottom. He plainly perceived, that all court promises and compliments were nothing but words of course; false, disingenuous, and deceitful to the last degree; that there was no such thing as concord, or real harmony amongst them; but, on the contrary, jars, jealousies, and dissensions constantly reigned there; that they were spiteful and malicious, that they hated one another in their hearts; and, in a word that their courteous deportment towards each other was mere formality and external shew, without the least spark of truth or sincerity.

Having met with this unexpected disappointment at Court, away winged the God to the Courts of Justice. Tho' he had little hopes, indeed, of finding Peace amongst the Council, the Attornies attending them, or their Clients, yet he imagined that he might probably have insinuated herself into the good graces of the Grave Dons upon the Bench, who had no self-interested views,

and were above a bribe. In their solemn air, Peace must certainly reign, and sit down perfectly contented in their generous hearts.

The Messenger of Jove, however, notwithstanding all his sagacity and foresight, was as much beside the cushion as he was before. The Judges were as embarrassed as the Courtiers; and after all their critical debates and moot-points, could not settle or adjust the true and genuine sense of those very statutes, by which they themselves ought to be ruled and governed.—Each endeavoured to vindicate and confirm that interpretation which he himself put upon them; and by that means, the laws, which were established originally to make the people quiet and easy, by adjusting their Rights and Properties, were shamefully perverted, and made nothing more than perfect Quirk, Chicanery, and Quibble.

From the Courts of Justice, therefore, away flies Hermes to the established Churches. The Ministers of the Gods, thinks he, are all Adorers of Peace, and shew the world a good example. If any where, says he, there shall I most assuredly find the shy Lady I am in quest of. But, with your leave, *Monf. Mercury*, I am apt to believe your Godship is still wide of the mark. *Madam Peace*, between you and I, is not to be met with in the Temple. You'll find nothing among the Priests but Discord and Dissention; the principles of one diametrically repugnant to those of another; nothing, in short, but pride, malice, uncharitableness, detestation, and deceit. One, with an enthusiastic zeal, defends this oracle; and another, with equal fire and fury, stands up an advocate for that statute, and each tenacious beyond reason, of those particular doctrines which he so sanguinely wishes to be universally received.

Mercury, not a little nettled and chagrined at his preceding fruitless researches; let us see, says his Godship, whether I shall meet with any better success amongst the Schoolmen, or Philosophers. As all Science is One, those Gentlemen must, doubtless, live in Peace and perfect Union.—Once more poor Hermes is got into the wrong box, and as much out of his road then as ever. An inveterate spleen, and

an implacable and revengeful spirit. I am a king are vagrant and the Me in a kind whilst insists, no other rant ba The of execution mission the far Count covering mong found though and either possit incor hats State than Long A wife of a inter says pee stur not sue me kin run mo ho on ca sw ho w w h e a p

an implacable hatred dwells amongst them, and reigns, as it were, over that jealous sect. Infinite disputes and partial proceedings are fomented and carried to an extravagant pitch in those seats of Literature; and the Ancients are incessantly at war with the Moderns. Homer, cries one of them, in a kind of transport, was a Mortal Deity; whilst another, in the rancour of his heart, insists, that the foolish Old Dotard deserves no other character, than that of an itinerant ballad-singer.

The winged Messenger, still incapable of executing his grand and important commission, takes his flight from the schools to the families of the wealthy, though neither Counts nor Barons: But what great discoveries did his Godship make, pray, amongst the Matrimonial Class?—Why, he found Husbands jealous of their Wives, though Rakes and Libertines themselves; and Wives, on the other hand, who were either Prudes or Coquets; and 'tis not only possible, but probable enough, as false and inconstant as their Consorts. The Tidbits and Whip-syllabubs of a Connubial State, he finds to be no better in reality, than mutual disgusts, chagrins, and secret Longings after an eternal separation.

Amongst Brothers and Sisters, he likewise discovers as inveterate a discord, tho' of another nature indeed—Jealousy, Self-interest, Suspicion, and Discontent. What, says Hermes, now grown fretful and peevish, and his paction worn down to the stumps—What! my Master Jove sure has not sent me on a fool's errand. Is there no such thing as Concord and Harmony to be met with amongst the whole race of mankind? Is the whole region of the earth run mad? I shall find my Stray-Sheep amongst Parents and Children, 'tis to be hoped. Here poor disguised Hermes is once more out in his politics, and more bewildered than ever; for he saw, when he came to the Touch-stone, that the former were cruel and unkind, and the latter disobedient and ungrateful. O! just Heaven! what a fine jaunt have I made on't!

After this pious exclamation, just as he was in a fit of despair, and preparing for his march homewards, he happily cast his eye upon a rivulet, or pretty stream, at a small distance from a little country village, and there spies Peace sitting upon the flowery margin, perfectly easy and con-

tented, like a Naid under a green-wood tree.—He knew her at the first glance, and transported at so unexpected an occurrence, was with her in a moment—So, Madam, says he with a smile, have I catch'd your Ladyship at last?—Yes, Mercury, here have I taken up my abode for some time: and here I live in perfect pleasure and content with this old, holy Hermit.—It is mighty well! replied Mercury; but by what I can perceive, no one, any more than myself, can find you, unless he be alone.

The HORSE's EXPOSTULATION with his Master. A DREAM.

IN consequence of having been safely, and pleasantly conveyed on Horseback, through the whole course of a summer's ramble, on my return home, I was led to reflect, on the various and unwarrantable Methods too frequently practised, seemingly with no other view, than to deprive us of every convenience which Nature has designed a Horse to afford us; so various, that to recite them would be endless, and so unwarrantable, that could the recital be faithfully accomplished, it would be deemed to exceed the bounds of probability.

It is a very odd observation, that the most striking incidents of the day often make part of our dreams the night following.—And thus it happened with me—For in my dream, my Horse appeared before me, and to my no small astonishment, addressed himself to me, in a clear, masculine tone of voice, in words to the following effect.

“Sir, I hope you have found me somewhat serviceable, in your late excursion; and I should esteem myself ungrateful, if I did not acknowledge that your humane treatment of me, ever since I have been under your protection, did justly lay claim to every return in my power.—My present situation is the more sensibly pleasing to me, as I can compare it with some others—For although I am but little advanced in years, I have nevertheless endured many hardships.—The first three years of my life, would indeed have been passed in perfect tranquility, had not a farrier almost buried me to death with a *comfortable* drink composed of the most fiery ingredients, which he drenched me with when I had the *frangibles*. This struggle over, I was again suffered to graze quietly, till the Horse-breeder

ker was ordered to make me gentle, who, to do him justice, was well qualified to have tamed a far more dangerous animal than myself, if blows, and almost starving, had been the properest means to obtain this end. He was paid, 'tis true, very liberally both for corn and hay; the former I never tasted, and the latter when given me was scarcely eatable; reduced to a shadow, I was brought home, and pronounced thoroughly broke. The groom then took me under his care, and if before I had too small an allowance, I am certain I had now a too plentiful one; voracious from the famine I had lately sustained, I devoured all the abundance he so constantly tempted me with, the natural consequence of which soon shewed itself in those various forms, which make it necessary to call in the Farrier! a name I can never think of but with Horror! as I cannot forget the torment he occasioned me to endure, by cramming, and that repeatedly, his nauseous black balls down my throat, which the next day always produced a sickness and pains, which no description can equal.—With youth and a good constitution on my side I escaped with life, and as soon as I was able to crawl about, the servants were ordered to ride me by turns, to make me quite fit for his *Honour's own riding*; from which period you may be well assured, that I could not want employment. But the business of the day did me no prejudice in comparison with that of the night: how frequently have I been taken from a hot stable, been galloped (after I had eaten plentifully) for miles without mercy; and afterwards been left tied to an alehouse door, exposed to all the rigour of the most inclement seasons? Or how could it be any matter of wonder, if with this treatment, that my master should dislike my ill looks? especially when the groom told him that good keeping was quite thrown away upon me, and that he verily did believe I was quite rotten.—Alarmed at this dreadful word, my master ordered me to be offered to a neighbouring dealer, and to part with me at any rate.—The groom and the dealer understood each other perfectly well; to his stables I was led that afternoon.—My exultation at this change was but very short, for although my new master suffered me to wallow in luxury and idleness, yet he was sure to make me smart for it in some part or other

of my body.—His first whim, (and most severely did I feel it) produced four deep gashes in my tail, and then, as if he gloried in his conceit and my misery, he improved both, by suspending a heavy weight to a rope through a pulley fixed to the ceiling, and tied to the extremity of the tail; so that on every variation of posture, my wounds when they began to heal, were perpetually torn open; and thus did he amuse himself with my rather pitiable condition for a whole fortnight. His next frolic was to punch out two of my teeth, after which he marked some with a burning iron, and filed others, because forsooth he said it was pretty to see them all level, white and even. At length, as I suppose, merely from being at a loss for new experiments, he sold me to a wealthy citizen, who wanted a safe horse to carry him to his country house every Saturday evening.—In this service I had no reason to complain of any hardships; the only inconvenience I found, was breathing the air of a close stable for five days in a week. My service here was near its expiration.—For my Master having staid somewhat later than usual one Sunday evening, and having taken his glass rather too freely, roll'd off my back in his return to town, and although I could not in pity, to his helpless condition, find in my heart to stir one step, yet had he the conscience to tell his wife, that his blundering horse threw him, and that he had made a firm resolution, never more to venture his neck by mounting again so arrant a stumbler—and accordingly to carry on the farce, actually sold me in a day or two to a country Squire who kept hounds, for a trifle—who was hugely delighted with his purchase, saying, if the beast proved too slight to carry him, he would suit little David his whipper-in to a hair. And here it was that I enjoyed what I so lately wished for, more exercise and a purer air. But unfortunately for me, the person who shod *all the Squire's horses* was one of those obstinate bunglers who hate all improvements, and will neither endure contradiction nor instruction; the very first time he shod me he pared my sole to the quick, scooped my frog quite hollow, and set me upon two points of iron at my heel; in short, he disabled my foot from ever being in its proper position, or from performing any part of its proper office. Inevitable lameness was the

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natural consequence; which the smith boldly asserted to be owing to an old grievance in the shoulder, and that boring that part with a red hot iron would be an infallible cure; to this proposal my master had too much humanity to consent, though I remember he did swear that if grass and rest did not cure me, the dogs should—which merry conceit the standers by applauded with a loud laugh.—My shoes once removed, my feet at liberty to resume their natural form, all appearances of lameness vanished; but as the idea of my being chest foundered dwelt uppermost in my master's mind, he was determined by that opinion to take the first opportunity to part with me. When you purchased me, he told the strictest truth, in warranting me a sound horse; though he had but little merit in this declaration, as he was conscious that he believed the very reverse to be the case: my sufferings from that happy period were at an end. Of all my services, it is from your's alone, Sir, that I can truly say (whilst you think me deserving of it) that I shall depart with regret, as it will become doubly grievous to me when I have tasted so much good fortune, to become a post chaise horse, and be flayed alive; or be doomed to groan out the remainder of my days, under the oppressive shafts of a dung or a gravel cart."

Here my emotion was so great, that it awoke me from sleep. Hurrying on my cloaths, I hastened to the stable—and for some time (so forcibly had my dream impressed the belief of its reality) I could hardly be convinced that I must first necessarily be in a dream, e'er I could again reasonably expect to hear my horse talk.

AN E C D O T E S.

A VESTRY ROOM DEBATE.

IN the parish of——, a village in the county of Gloucester, the church is situated at the bottom of a hill, and one half of the parish, which is very large, is situated upon the hills, and the other half in the vale. The Rector was applied to, a few years ago, in the vestry, by some of the farmers in the low lands, to read the prayer for fair weather. This being understood by others in the uplands, the vestry was immediately crowded, and

the Doctor was closely pressed on all sides. Many for reading the prayer, urged, that they had not got in above two thirds of their hay, and as great part of the remaining third part lay abroad, it would be spoiled if the rain should continue. But this, it was said, was the case through the whole parish, and as the two thirds already sown were more than double the crop of last year, there was no cause of complaint, if such a loss should happen as was apprehended. Another said, the rains might ruin the corn harvest. The answer to this: Let us see if the rains continue till that season, then we may pray to avert a bad harvest and a second deluge at the same time. A third insisted, that his meadows were under water, and his wheat was lodged with the rains. To this it was said, nineteen in twenty had not this misfortune to complain of; and if his situation made him a sufferer this year, it gave him plentiful crops the four preceding, when the rest of the parish were praying for rain. Various were the reasons against reading the prayer. One said he had got in his hay, and the rain was good for his aftermath. A second, that he was a grafter, and that if his hay suffered a little, he was trebly paid in the plenty of feed for his cattle. A third, that his uplands had never known such a crop, and he did not doubt but he should do as well in this wet harvest, if it should prove so, as he had done in others, when his grounds were not half covered with grain.

The Rector, who did not take his tythes in kind, heard with great attention all that had been urged; and though the greatest part of the corn land was on the hills, yet a small meadow, part of the glebe, which he held in his own hands, being unfortunately under water, was well nigh determining the Doctor to read the prayer, till the Clerk, who had nothing arising from any land in the parish but his small dues from the churchyard as Sexton, said, for his part, he thought the Farmers were never satisfied. They acknowledged there was great plenty, and yet were complaining that the cause of this plenty would damage part of their crop, which, when diminished, would more than double the crop of the last year. He thought they should rather join with him in saying,

The Lord giveth, and the Lord taketh away, blessed be the Name of the Lord.

TRUTH

TRUTH *not to be told at all Times.*

THE Calit Hegiage, who by his cruelties had rendered himself the terror and dread of his subjects, happening to traverse his vast dominions without any badge of distinction, met with an Arabian of the desert; and thus addressed himself to him:

"Friend (said he) I should be glad you would let me know what kind of man this Hegiage is, of whom you talk so much?"—

"Hegiage (replied the Arabian) is no man; he is a tyger, a monster." "Of what do they accuse him?" "Oh! a multitude of crimes: already has he wallowed in the blood of more than a million of his subjects." "Have you never seen him?" "No." "Well, look at him now: 'tis to him thou speakest."

The Arabian, without betraying the least surprise, rivets his eyes upon him, and proudly demands, "And you, Sir, know you who I am?" "No." "I belong to the family of Zobain, each of whose descendants is infected with madness one day in every year, and mine is to-day."

Hegiage smiled, and in consideration of the ingenuity of his excuse, forgave him.

INDIAN POLICY.

SOON after Sir William Johnson had concluded the last peace with the Indians, one of the French traders, in travelling through the wood, had the misfortune to founder his horse in a swamp, or morass, of which there are many in those parts; and finding he could not get him out, he was obliged to unload his pack from him, and carry it himself. While he was thus pursuing his journey, and worn out with fatigue, an Indian on horseback overtook him, and pitying his condition, very readily offered to take him and his pack to the next settlement, from whence they were then many miles. The trader joyfully accepted the offer, and was carried safe to Crown Point, one of our settlements.—Being arrived, he thought it would be no difficult matter to get the horse into his possession, and keep it as his own; accordingly, when the Indian was laid down, he took the horse, put his pack on him, and rode away. The Indian awaking, and finding his horse gone, pursued and presently brought back the thief and horse to Crown Point. The Frenchman hereupon raised an outcry, and told the people that

he overtook the Indian in the woods, and out of kindness let him ride with him to that place, and that now the ungrateful villain wanted to take his horse from him: "A horse (says he) which has carried me and my goods these three years." Many people were now collected, and on hearing this story, would have treated the poor Indian very severely; but he begged they would have patience to hear him before they passed judgment. He then related to them how he had overtaken this Frenchman, and brought him there, "but (added he) as our stories are so much alike, and you may not believe what I tell you, lead the horse away, cover his head, and bring him here again." This they presently did. "Now (said he, addressing himself to the Frenchman) as the horse has been yours for three years, as you say, you can't but know of the blemish which he has in one of his eyes; if, therefore, you name in which eye it is, the horse is yours; if not, I hope it will be granted to belong to me." This proposal was allowed by all to be a very just one, and the Frenchman thinking it was but an even chance that he guessed right, immediately answered,—"The blemish is in the Off Eye." Now, said the Indian, *uncover the horse's head, and set if both his eyes are not as sound as mine.*

UNITY *not always beneficial.*

A gentleman once applied to a learned body for permission to cut down an old pear tree belonging to their citate, which hindered his prospect.

On addressing himself separately to every one of the party, he met with a most gracious reception. But it happened unfortunately, that this important business could not be transacted without a meeting of the whole; where, to his great surprize, he found them unanimous in rejecting his petition.

Stung with this treatment, he gave them all an invitation to pass the evening at his inn, where, having ordered several sorts of liquor to be set upon the table, he began with great compoture to mix them in a large bowl. The company expressing their surprize at so whimsical a mixture,—"Look you here, gentlemen, (says he) 'tis not my fault—you only see yourselves—separate, you were the civilest people I ever met with; but, as a body, you are quite insufferable."



A NARRATIVE of the PROCEEDINGS of the Seventh Session of the Fourteenth PARLIAMENT of GEORGE III.

ON Thursday, January 13, his Majesty opened the Sessions with the following Speech :

" My Lords and Gentlemen,
" The unusual length of the last session of parliament made me desirous of giving you as long a recess as the public service would admit. I have, therefore, been glad to find myself under no necessity of calling you from your respective counties at an earlier season ; and I doubt not but you are now met together, in the best disposition, for applying yourselves to the dispatch of the public business.

" You will, I am persuaded, agree with me in regretting, that the peace, so long expected and so very desirable, is not yet effected between Russia and the Porte ; but it is with real satisfaction I can repeat, that other foreign powers continue still to have the same pacific dispositions with myself. I can have no other wish than to see the general tranquility restored : for the establishment and subsequent preservation of which, no endeavours of mine, consistent with the honour of my crown and the interests of my people, shall ever be wanting.

" In this state of foreign affairs, you will have full leisure to attend to the improvement of our internal and domestic situation, and to the prosecution of measures more immediately respecting the preservation and advancement of the revenue and commerce of the kingdom. Among the objects which, in this view, will come under your consideration, none can better deserve your attention than the state of the gold coin ; which I must recommend to you in a more particular manner, as well on account of its very high importance, as of the peculiar advantages which the present time affords, for executing with success such measures as you may find it expedient to adopt with respect to this great national concern.

" The degree of diminution which that coin had actually suffered, and the very rapid progress which the mischief was daily making, were truly alarming. It is with much satisfaction that I have seen the evil, in a great measure, checked by the regulations made in the last session of parliament. I trust, however, that you will not stop here, nor think that you have discharged your duty, either to your country or your fellow subjects, without using your best endeavours for putting the gold coin upon such a footing, as may not only completely remove the present grievance, but render the credit and com-

merce of the kingdom sufficiently secure from being again exposed to the like danger."

" Gentlemen of the House of Commons,
" I have ordered the proper estimates for the current year to be laid before you ; and rely on your readiness to grant me such supplies as shall be found requisite in the present situation of affairs."

" My Lords and Gentlemen,
" The experience I have had of your past conduct leaves me no room to doubt, either of your zeal or prudence, in your endeavours to promote the welfare of your country. You will not suffer any parts of the public service to escape your attention ; but, various and extensive as those are, you will be careful to select, for your immediate deliberation, such of them as shall appear to be most important : and you can propose no measures, that will serve either to secure or advance the happiness and prosperity of my people, in which you may not always depend on my most hearty concurrence."

Jan. 13. The House, with their Speaker, having returned from the Lords, the newly-elected members being sworn, and the King's Speech read, Lord Guernsey moved for an Address to his Majesty, in the usual stile and form. He gave great merit to his Majesty, and paid a high compliment to the wisdom of his counsels, to which he entirely attributed the present pacific disposition of the several powers not engaged in actual war ; and hinted pretty plainly, that nothing but the firmness of the Sovereign, and the terrors of a British fleet, could have prevented, ere now, the flames of war being kindled and extended to every part of Europe.

Mr. St. John seconded the motion in nearly the same terms : and concluded with enumerating the many important benefits derived to the trade and revenue of this kingdom from the late coin act, and the happy pretirage of rendering them more permanent and extensive, by pursuing those measures now recommended from the throne.

15. This day the House accompanied their Speaker with an address to St. James's, on his Majesty's Speech from the Throne.

17. The Speaker reported his Majesty's answer to the address. The society of Gray's-inn presented a petition, praying that they might be exonerated from parochial levies, and from serving parish offices, because they were a distinct body, and supported their own poor. Leave was given to bring in a bill conformable to the prayer of the petition ; but when it came before the House for a se-

cond reading, it was rejected by a majority of 13 votes.

20. Mr. Alderman Crosby presented a petition from Sir Watkin Lewes, complaining of an undue Election and Return for the City of Worcester: that bribery and other illicit means had been employed by Mr. Rous, the sitting Member, to procure a Majority; that several Members of the Corporation had acted as Agents, and that the Sheriff had been guilty of partiality in the execution of his office. A Committee being appointed to enquire into the legality of this election, it was brought before the House the 2d of Feb. The examination of evidence was not finished till the 8th, when the Committee unanimously determined, that neither the sitting Member nor Petitioner were duly elected, but that the said Election was void.—A writ was accordingly issued for a re-election, when Col. Lechmere was the successful Candidate, though Sir Watkin's patriotic conduct through the whole of this business had secured him his former, and engaged him many new friends.

24. Mr. Graves made a motion for leave to bring in a bill to prevent frivolous and vexatious removals of the poor, and a Committee was appointed to prepare and bring in the same: But on making their report to the House, the bill was put off for 4 months.

26. Mr. Alderman Hopkins presented a petition from John Roberts, Esq; complaining of an undue election and return of Frederick Bull, Esq; (Lord Mayor) for a member to serve in parliament for the city of London. The petition was withdrawn at the request of the petitioning candidate, and the merits of it was not brought before the House.

Feb. 10. His Majesty, attended by his Grace the Duke of Ancaſter and Lord Bolingbroke, went to the House of Peers, and gave the royal assent to the bill for granting an aid, by a land-tax of 3s. in the pound, for 1774; to the bill for continuing the duties on malt, mum, cyder, and perry; and to the bill for punishing mutiny and desertion.

Sir Edward Ashley presented a bill to enable Thomas De Grey, Esq; to inclose several common lands and fields in the county of Norfolk. Mr. Sawbridge immediately presented a petition from William Tooke, Esq; praying that the bill to enable Mr. De Grey, &c. might not pass into an act. The petition was read, setting forth, that Mr. De Grey had not given proper notice to the inhabitants that occupied several of the lands he intended to inclose, and that the said inclosures would be highly prejudicial to the petitioner, and many others. The bill was, however, read a first time, and ordered to be read a second time on Tuesday se'ennight. These petitions, and the hasty manner in which the inclosing bill was read, produced a most virulent letter against the speaker, which was next day published in the Public Advertiser.

11. The Speaker complained to the House of the said letter, and wished the members who presented the above petitions would declare what they knew of his conduct in respect to those petitions.

Sir Edward Ashley arose, and went through the whole of the charges contained in the said letter, as far as respected himself, and said the charges of partiality were false.

Mr. Sawbridge said, that he was applied to, to present the petition but a few days ago; that what he had said concerning it was according to the instructions he received; but he knew of no partiality on the side of Sir Fletcher.

The whole House seeming unanimous that the charge was groundless, Sir Fletcher arose, and said he was thoroughly satisfied the House thought him innocent, and it was the height of his ambition to gain their esteem; that, if he had their good word, he cared not what any faction said of him.

Mr. Herbert said, he thought it would be an impeachment of the understanding of that House, to suffer such a libel to pass without impunity.

This produced a warm debate, and, in the conclusion, a motion was made by Mr. Dempster, and agreed to *non. con.* That a letter, signed, "*Strike, but hear.*" in the Public Advertiser of this day, was a false, atrocious, and scandalous Libel on Sir Fletcher Norton, Speaker of this House. Then followed Mr. Herbert's:

Resolved, That H. S. Woodfall, Publisher of the Public Advertiser, do attend at the Bar of this House on Monday morning next.

14. The Printer of the Public Advertiser attended the House of Commons according to order; when the Public Advertiser of Friday last being put into his hands, he was asked what reason he could urge in his vindication for having published the letter addressed to Sir Fletcher Norton, Knt. Speaker of the House of Commons.

The Printer made answer, that "Mr. HORNE gave him that letter; and that he published it in the hurry of business. —He expressed his hopes that the House would make allowances for the great hurry the nature of his business subjected him to; and what he had further to plead in his behalf was, that during a course of near twenty years he had never fallen under the displeasure of the House; that he had attended according to their order; and that in his unfortunate situation he must beg to throw himself on the mercy of the House."

On being asked Mr. Horne's Christian name, and where he lived, he said he believed his christian name was John, and that the place of his residence was Brentford; and being questioned of what profession Mr. Horne was, he answered, that he was deemed a clergyman.

The Printer was then ordered to withdraw from the bar, but not to go away.

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The House then went into debate, in the course of which the three following motions were made: the first, for committing the Printer into the custody of the Serjeant at Arms; the second, to Newgate; and the third, to the Gatehouse.

The debate lasted till eight o'clock, when the amendment relative to the Gatehouse being withdrawn, the question stood:

"For commitment to the Serjeant at Arms;" or, agreeable to Mr. Fox's amendment, "to Newgate."

Upon a division, the numbers were as follow:

For Mr. Herbert's motion of "commitment to the custody of the Serjeant at Arms," ————— 152

For Mr. Fox's amendment of "committing to Newgate," ————— 68

The division being over, a motion was made, "that Mr. Horne be ordered to attend the House on Wednesday." It passed unanimously in the affirmative. The Printer was then taken into the custody of the Serjeant at Arms.

Mr. Horne was served with a notice to attend the House of Commons on the 16th, but he eluded it, by pretending that the notice must have been intended for some other John Horne, as there were many of that name in the city of London. However, he wrote to the clerk who signed the order, that, when he was properly summoned, he should think it his duty to attend.

15. Mr. Sawbridge made a motion for shortening the duration of Parliaments, and for leave to bring in a bill for making them triennial. The motion was seconded by Mr. Oliver, and no reply being made, the question was called for, and the House divided, Ayes, 94. Noes, 221.

Sir George Saville moved for leave to bring in a bill to secure to this House the eligibility of persons to serve in Parliament. This motion produced a short debate, when the question being put, the House divided, Ayes, 143. Noes, 206.

16. Report being made to the House of Mr. Horne's evasion, ordered, that the Rev. John Horne be taken into custody of the Serjeant at Arms.

Same day complaint was made to the House, by the Hon. Charles Fox, of another letter in the Public Advertiser and Morning Chronicle, signed a *South Briton*, which being read, was voted "a false, scandalous, and traitorous libel upon the constitution of this country, and tending to alienate the affections of his Majesty's subjects from his Majesty and the royal family;" and it was moved, that directions be given to his Majesty's Attorney-general to prosecute the Printers.

17. The Serjeant at Arms went to the house of Mr. Tooke, in Serjeant's-inn, to take Mr. Horne into custody, who very readily accompanied him to the House; and,

when called to the Bar, endeavoured to exculpate himself from holding the House in contempt. Being ordered to withdraw, Mr. Oliver moved that he might be discharged out of custody; but that was over-ruled. And being again called to the Bar, the minutes of the proceedings of Friday were read to him, and he was asked what he had to say in his defence? He particularly wanted to know, whether what had been read to him was the charge or the evidence. The Speaker said the charge. Mr. Horne then presumed the House meant that he should put in his plea; and, after a short pause, he was answered in the affirmative. Then, he said, he should plead, as in other courts, NOT GUILTY. And there being no evidence against him but that of Mr. Woodfall, and Mr. Woodfall's evidence being judged incompetent, because in custody, Mr. Horne was discharged on paying his fees.

25. Sir Edward Ashley made a motion for leave to bring in a bill for making Mr. Grenville's act respecting controverted elections, perpetual; which was carried 230 to 122, though the Minister opposed it.

The Sheriff of London presented a petition to the House of Commons for leave to make a navigable cut from Moorfields to Waltham abbey. Mr. Alderman Townsend opposed it, as it would injure his private property. It was referred to a Committee, but rejected.

28. Mr. Woodfall was a second time brought to the Bar of the House, and discharged, paying his fees. The Speaker, with great mildness, decency, and good temper, declaring, that, as the matter originated from an attack upon himself, he would not with a thought should be entertained, that he held any malice either to him or Mr. Horne; and that he had rather incur the displeasure of the House for being too lenient, than the resentment of the people for being too severe.

Mr. Alderman Harley presented a petition from the Bookellers of London, &c. setting forth, that many of them would be ruined by the late decision in the House of Lords, unless some relief was given them.

Mr. Sawbridge seconded the motion, in which he said, that, by a decision in the year 1769, in favour of copy-right, many of the Bookellers had laid out their whole fortunes in that article, which right had now been taken from them by the determination of the Upper House; and, if some redress was not given them, many families would be totally ruined.

It was referred to a Committee, and a bill brought in, which passed the House, but was rejected by the House of Peers at its first reading.

The Attorney-general presented a petition from Major-General Fraser, praying to have those estates of his father, Simon Lord Lovat,

which were forfeited to the Crown, restored to him. He prefaced the petition with a long panegyric upon the Major-General, who, he said, was sent early to Scotland, where he was educated under masters who had a professed regard for the late King; that, in the late rebellion, Lord Lovat insisted on the petitioner's taking up arms on the same side he did, although it was greatly against the petitioner's will; that the petitioner, after the rebellion, was offered a regiment in the French service, but refused it, and desired leave to be employed in the service of his late Majesty, where, in the beginning of the last war, he raised 1800 men, and had sacrificed his blood and fortune in support of the Crown in America. Lord North desired to acquaint the House, that the petition had been shewn to his Majesty, and he strongly recommended it. Mr. T. Townshend said, he had no objection to this, as it was a particular case, but he should be against its being made a precedent; he should therefore second this motion.

March 1. The House of Commons went into a Committee to consider of the present state of the linen manufacture. Messrs. Anderson and Goldy were called to the Bar. The sum of their testimony was, that the linen manufacture of Scotland had decreased between two and three millions of yards in the course of last year; that the value of what was stamped during the same period was short of the preceding year 226,000*l.* that the average price of the cloth sold in the year 1769 was 12*d.* 3-12ths the yard, and, in the year 1773, but 9*d.* 5-24ths; that four whole counties, Glasgow and Paisley included, out of 6000 looms, had 2400 unemployed; that the proportion of those that were in general idle was at least a third; that, out of a certain district in the county of Sutherland, 600 out of 1800 spinners had emigrated, and so in proportion in several other places therein specified; that some of the linens of 1771 were still on hand unsold; and, on the whole, that there were not, in the beginning of the present year, much more than half the weavers employed throughout the kingdom of Scotland and north of England.

5. The House went into a Committee on the bill for paying by a county rate the fees of persons charged with felony and other crimes, and discharged by proclamation. Dr. Forthgill and Mr. Pott were severally examined at the Bar, touching the best means of preventing the gaol distemper, as well as its consequences to persons doing their duty in courts of criminal judicature. The Doctor said, that the use of hot and cold baths, white-washing the walls, and painting the wainscot, &c. would be very proper precautions to prevent the generating of the distemper within the prison, and to prevent its effects in courts of justice. He was of opinion that the prisoners should be washed on the day of

trial, have their old cloaths taken off and destroyed, and other garments put on. Mr. Pott added, among some trifling alterations, that the walls or wainscot should be annually scraped previous to their being white-washed or painted. They were both of opinion, that the want of air, exercise, and the foulness occasioned by the exhalations or animal effluvia from each other's bodies were the true causes of the disorder; that a person might communicate the disorder from his cloaths to another, without being himself infected, and it was doubted by them if the infection might not be received from the very hair.

Mr. Howard was next called to be examined, and as the motives which occasioned his attendance are rather a little extraordinary in these degenerate days, it may not be improper to lay them, by way of example, before the public. The account this Gentleman gave was to the following purport: That being last year High Sheriff of the county of Bedford, several particulars came to his knowledge, sufficient to induce him to visit the several gaols of this kingdom; that during the two preceding months he had in part executed that design; that out of forty-two county prisons he had visited thirty-eight; that the fees payable by persons discharged by proclamation, were from 1*s.* to 27*s.* 4*d.* that they were detained frequently from one to five weeks for those fees; that if no friend or humane person paid the fees, they were generally discharged on giving a note of hand to the gaoler; that voluntary subscriptions were often set on foot for that purpose; that many of the prisons he visited were extremely inconvenient, nasty, and unhealthy; that at Launceston in Cornwall, the keeper, under-keeper, and ten out of eleven prisoners, were ill of the gaol fever; that he had paid the fees alluded to in one or two instances; and that he meant to prosecute his original plan, which was, to visit every prison in the kingdom.—The bill was committed, and took up above an hour and a half in making the several amendments suggested by the evidence. As soon as Sir Thomas Clavering quitted the chair, he moved the following resolution: "That the House retain a proper sense of the zeal and humanity which led ——— Howard, Esq; to visit the gaols of this kingdom, and to communicate his observations on that subject to the House." Mr. Howard was then called in, and informed of the said resolution.

The House next went into a Committee, to enquire into the present state of the linen manufacture in Great Britain and Ireland, when four persons were examined in respect to its present state in Ireland. Besides a general decrease in sales, a glut in the London market, and a great fall in the prices, their evidence went chiefly in proof of the following important facts: That the export in

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linen in 1771, was upwards of 25,000,000 of yards, of the average value of 7s. 3d. per yard; that in 1772, the exports decreased full 5,000,000; that in the last year it had suffered a further decrease of more than 2,000,000 of yards; that the gross amount of the linen and yarn, exported in the year 1771, had fallen from 1,900,000l. to about 1,400,000l. or full half a million; that when the accounts were made up to the 25th of the present month, the decrease would be found considerably greater than either of the two preceding years in proportion; that for the two years, ending the first of May, 1773, 16,000,000 of yards of Irish linen were exported into London only, but that the produce of the last market was for the most part arrived, and by the most moderate computation would fall short of 11,000,000 of yards; that 30,000 emigrants, in the different branches of the manufacture, had left the province of Ulster, to go to America and other places, within the two last years; and that on an average, more than one-third of the looms throughout the kingdom were now idle.

7. Lord North presented to the House the following message, signed by his Majesty:

"His Majesty, upon information of the unwarrantable practices which have been lately concerted and carried on in North-America, and particularly of the violent and outrageous proceedings at the town and port of Boston, in the province of Massachusetts Bay, with a view to obstruct the commerce of this kingdom, and upon grounds and pretences immediately subversive of the constitution thereof, has thought fit to lay the whole matter before his two Houses of Parliament, fully confiding as well in their zeal for the maintenance of his Majesty's authority, as in their attachment to the common interest and welfare of all his dominions, that they will not only enable his Majesty effectually to take such measures as may be most likely to put an immediate stop to the present disorders, but will also take into their most serious consideration what further regulations and permanent provisions may be necessary to be established, for better securing the execution of the laws, and the just dependance of the Colonies upon the Crown and Parliament of Great-Britain."

9. This day the royal assent, by commission, was given to "An Act to allow the exportation of corn, grain, &c. to his Majesty's sugar colonies in America; an Act to allow the importation of salted beef, pork, bacon, and butter, from Ireland; and to an Act for reducing the duty payable upon the exportation of gun senega."

11. The American correspondence, consisting of 109 letters, was read this day before the House.—By these letters it appears, that the Bostonians were left entirely to themselves in the article of tea: the Governor and Military were entirely passive, and

suffered the inhabitants to take their own course.

14. The order of the day to take into consideration the American papers, being called for, Lord North rose, and very fully entered into the contents of the papers under consideration, and moved, that leave be given to bring in a bill for removing the officers appointed for the collection and management of his Majesty's duties and customs, from the town of Boston, in the province of Massachusetts Bay, in North-America, and to discontinue the landing, discharging, lading and shipping of goods, wares, and merchandize, at the said town of Boston, or within the harbour thereof.

This bill sets forth the behaviour of the people at Boston, their obstruction to the laws of this country relative to the trade of the subject, and the revenue of his Majesty being interrupted in the port and harbour of Boston.—It enacts, that no goods, wares, or merchandize, shall be shipped on board any vessel, or landed on any quay in the harbour of Boston, between Nant's point and Anderson point: that no goods, wares, or merchandize, shall be landed or shipped, until his Majesty shall be satisfied in his Privy Council, that for the future no interruption shall be made to the trade of this country, nor to the collection of his Majesty's duties payable thereon, in the town and harbour of Boston; penalties and forfeitures of ship and cargo to be the consequence of disobedience to the act. There is a clause to prevent his Majesty from re-instating the trade of the port or town of Boston, until full satisfaction shall be made to the East-India Company, for the loss they have sustained by the demolition of their tea. There is also an exception as to ships laden with provisions for the inhabitants of the town of Boston. It further enacts, that the custom-house officers and stores shall immediately be removed from Boston.

[Merchandize is now to be landed at Marblehead in the province of Salem, which is putting Boston about 17 miles from the sea in respect to foreign trade.]

Lord North, in his speech on this occasion, set forth, that the inhabitants of Boston had been the ring-leaders in all the riots in America for seven years past: that they had committed a great outrage by destroying the tea on board the ship that had brought it, and had lent advice to the other governments, to spirit them up to act in the same manner; but that the other provinces had behaved with more prudence, and their tea was returned safe back: for these, among other reasons, he thought that the people of Boston alone ought to feel the weight of the resentment of government.

16. The House went into the adjourned Committee of Enquiry into the present state of the linen manufacture of Great Britain and Ireland, when Mr. Paine, Governor of the Bank

Bank, underwent an examination of full three hours. It appeared from his testimony, that the imports of foreign linens for four series of five years, commencing in 1752, and ending in 1771, were 31, 24, 27, and 26,000,000 of yards per annum; that in 1772 it was 27, but in 1773 had fallen to 17,000,000, which fell short more than the lowest import, which was that of 1762, at the conclusion of the late war; that the value of the exports from Great Britain to Holland and Germany, from 1768 to 1769, amounted to 28,000,000l.; that from 1760 to 1766, they had fallen on an average to 4,000,000l. and a fraction each year; but that from the latter period to 1771, they had still further decreased one-fourth, or to 3,000,000l. and a fraction each year; that the draw-back on exportation had varied from 1752 to 1771, from 44,000l. each year, to 76,000l. and in the number of yards exported, from 7 to 10,000,000; that during the above period, the bounties paid on British and Irish linens exported, was from 18 to 63,000l. and on an average of the three years preceding 1773, 61,000l. per ann. that the duties payable on the importation of foreign linens for 20 years past, was 173,000l. per ann. that the home consumption of foreign linens was about 18,000,000 of yards yearly; and that the whole of the foreign linen import did not exceed 200,000l. and a fraction, exclusive of what was imported from Russia, which was generally 4,000,000 of yards per annum.

Sir George Yonge asked Mr. Payne, if he knew any thing of a stagnation of credit in 1772, of the causes of that stagnation, and of the present state of credit in general? To these queries Mr. Paine answered, that an act being passed in 1767 in this country, for laying duties on certain articles of import into America, the people of that country entered into combinations not to import any of our manufactures till those duties were repealed; that this resolution affected more or less the several branches of export manufacture; that great quantities of goods were manufactured in the three kingdoms between 1767 and 1770, the period the trade was again opened between this country and North America; that this stagnation was particularly felt by the Scotch linen manufacturers much earlier than by the Irish, who being richer, and in every respect more opulent, were thereby enabled to wait for better markets, or bear the loss of bad ones; that the Scotch paper circulation, the effects of which had extended itself to the whole island, being entirely stretched, about the latter end of the year 1771, and the spring 1772, to its utmost, first gave the alarm, and the notice of that *explosion* which shortly after followed; that this event had been foreseen for some time, and had seasonably taken place; for if it had been deferred for another year, the public, nay the national credit, must have

been totally ruined. He concluded on this head by observing, that the Glasgow merchants, who have at all times a great deal of their effects in North America, perceiving the very precarious state of trade both there and in Britain, declined making any further advances in money or credit, to the manufacturers; and it was to this he chiefly attributed the great decline of the linen manufactures in Scotland. He said likewise, that the *explosion* of public credit, as he termed it, affected every other branch of trade, as well as the linen, in proportion as our North American vent had failed us, or we had stretched our general credit or circulation beyond its natural tone. But, says he, trade is beginning to revive, and I have no reason to doubt but that credit will shortly be restored to its former flourishing condition, and that too on the firmest and surest ground.

The purport of the evidence relative to the decline of the linen manufacture in England was, that the linen manufacture was carried on to a considerable extent in the counties of Wilts, Somerset, Hants, and Dorset; that it formerly employed 30,000 hands, and 3000 looms, the third of which now stood idle; that the chief articles manufactured were dowls and ticks; that the former was almost ruined, and the latter overstocked, on account of the looms employed on the dowls being now turned to the manufacture of tick, by which means there came to be a glut of ticks at market; and, that the sole cause of this decline was the interference of the foreign dowls, to almost the total exclusion of the home manufacture.

28. Lord North brought in a second bill, "for better regulating the government of the province of Massachusetts's Bay, in North America." The substance of which is, the Council to be chosen no longer by the House of Representatives, as the Charter directs, but by the King in his Privy Council, and to subsist during *his Majesty's pleasure*; the Judges, Sheriffs, and Magistrates, to be chosen by the Governor and Council. The manner of choosing juries is altered; and no town meeting to be held but the annual one.

31. His Majesty went in state to the House of Peers, and gave the royal assent to the Act for removing the officers of customs from Boston, in Massachusetts's Bay;—for continuing several free ports in Jamaica;—for enabling the Duke of Buccleugh, the Duke of Queensborough, &c. to reduce certain annuities granted by the Bank of Ayr;—for allowing further time for enrolment of deeds and wills made by papists;—for dissolving the marriage of Richard Heathly;—for making perpetual the Acts for regulating the trials of controverted elections;—for the pay and clothing of the militia;—for relieving prisoners acquitted of felonies, but retained for fees;—for granting to General Frazer the lands belonging to his father, the late Ld. Lo-

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vatt;—for a new commission of land-tax ;—for repealing a clause in the general turnpike act, relative to the width of wheels ;—for improving lands in the life of Ely ;—for lighting, paving, and watching the parish of St. James, Clerkenwell ; and to several private bills.

April 12. This day the House met according to adjournment, when Col. Luttrell appeared there for the first time this session, and complained against the Sheriffs of Middlesex, desiring they might be brought to answer cause why they summoned Mr. Wilkes at the call of the House, instead of him. Mr. C. Fox seconded the complaint ; but Lord North said, it would be taking up a matter that had been winked at some time, and therefore thought it would be best to take no farther notice of it ; and so it dropt.

On a motion made by Mr. Fuller, to repeal the duty laid upon teas in all his Majesty's dominions in North-America, the House divided. Ayes, 49. Noes, 182.

April 20. The House resolved itself into a committee of enquiry into the present state of the linen manufacture of Great-Britain and Ireland, when Mr. Glover, agent for the Hamburgh merchants, summed up the whole of the evidence given in behalf of his clients, in a very clear and masterly manner. His speech, which took up two hours and a half in delivering, was partly taken up in a recapitulation of the several facts stated to the committee, his own observations thereupon, and a *commercial Philippic* on the Scotch nation. He observed, that all the improbable stories related of La Mancha's Knight were realized in the strange incoherent schemes adopted by the people of that country. He was pointedly severe on their visionary projects, their Bank in Ayr, their West-India purchases, paper circulation, and their creative powers of making millions out of nothing. Neither was he sparing in charges of monopoly, national partiality, and ambition. He owned, he said, that they did not want genius, nor learning, nor ingenuity, but that they seemed to be totally void of that grand requisite for the prosecution of great commercial undertakings, which was common sense. They would endeavour (said he) to grasp at all, by which means they have almost lost every thing. They would force nature as it were, to answer their wild, incoherent, ill-digested, impracticable, ambitious schemes. Destitute of all the natural advantages for carrying on a great and extensive commerce, they would not only rival this part of the island, but go beyond it ; and what makes this attempt the more visionary and chimerical is, that the only means by which their credit would be extended, their landed security, is so fettered by the peculiar laws of that country, that no one, who was not as foolish and romantic as themselves, would lend them a shilling on it, as the property gained therein can neither

be alienated, transferred, or willed, in a variety of instances. He dwelt very fully on the cause of migrations, both in Scotland and Ireland. In the latter place he attributed them to the cruelty, oppression, and extortion of the land owners, who, not contented with raising their lands much above their real value, had attempted to introduce personal services, in order to reduce their tenants to a state of absolute slavery. In the former, he said, they were entirely owing to the paper circulation, and the consequent ruin it brought on the small manufacturers when it was stopped in 1772 ; and in order to prove that, whatever the cause of the emigrations were, it could not with justice be imputed to the importation of foreign linens, because, on an average for the last five years preceding 1773, the amount of the linens stamped in Scotland was about 13,000,000 of yards, and in the lowest year, which was the last, it did not fall short of that quantity above 2,500,000 ; that computing the amount of Irish linens, and stating the difference in the same manner, the decrease would be found to be but very trifling ; whereas the import of foreign linens, stated on the same average of five years, had fallen from 27,000,000 of yards to 17,000,000 ; a smaller quantity than has been imported for full half a century, one year only excepted.

May 5. This day the royal assent by commission, was given to—An act to enable the Governor and Company of the Bank of Scotland to increase the capital stock of the said Company ;—an act for granting further time to the East-India Company to expose to sale the singlo and bohea teas remaining in their warehouses on the 5th of April last ;—an act for preventing frauds and embezzlements by persons employed in the woollen manufactory ;—an act for allowing further time for enrollment of deeds and wills made by Papists, and for relief of protestant purchasers ;—an act for paving, repairing, cleansing, and lighting the streets of Hereford ;—an act to allow the exportation of corn to Hudson's Bay ;—an act for fixing a public market at Swansea ;—&c. to other public & private bills.

Sir Wm. Meredith moved, and was seconded by Sir George Saville, for the House to resolve itself into a committee, to consider of a method of granting relief in the matter of subscription to the 39 articles. The motion passed in the negative by a very great majority.

At seven o'clock, the house went into a committee of enquiry into the present state of the linen trade of Great-Britain and Ireland. Mr. Forster, agent for the Russian company, was called in, who after explaining shortly the nature of the evidence he intended to produce, called Mr. Stetton, an importer of Russian linens. His testimony went to prove, after specifying the several species imported, that no substitute whatever could be had to answer the demand ; that the linens imported

imported from Russia were almost solely worn by the poor; and that if any additional duties were laid upon them, they would be equal to a prohibition.

The next and last witness examined was a Mr. Kavanagh, a British merchant resident in Russia. He said, that the exports from England to Russia were about 140,000*l.* and the imports of British manufactures 200,000*l.* besides 100,000*l.* in materials not manufactured; that the manufactures, &c. consisted chiefly of all kinds of woollen goods, cutlery, hardware, tin, lead, dye-stuffs, carriages, and jewellery; that the balance against Britain, in its trade with Russia, was from 800,000*l.* to 1,000,000*l.* per annum; that this balance arose from the purchase of raw materials, which we could not do without; that in particular in the article of hemp, all Europe besides could not furnish a fourth of what we wanted; that the export of hemp from Russia was 20,000 tons, of flax 7,000, and iron 30,000; that we could not carry on our linen or hardware manufactures, nor fit out our fleets, without those supplies; that we were not only the most favoured nation by treaty, but were actually so, for that we were in the daily exercise and possession of rights, liberties, and immunities, denied to any other nation, or even to the natives. He enumerated several, among which the following are the most remarkable: An English merchant can have no soldier quartered on him; he is not liable to arrest, but when his effects are found insufficient to discharge his debts; his books or papers cannot be seized on any pretence, nor even inspected without an apparent cause; he is permitted to pay the imperial duties in the current coin of the country, a favour denied to any other foreigner, who is obliged to pay one half in Dutch dollars; besides which, he is exonerated from several small duties, which all other persons, whether natives or foreigners, are subject to.

9. The order of the day, for the House to go into a committee of the whole house, to take into consideration the state of the Gold Coin, being read, Mr. Chamberlaine, Solicitor of the Mint, was called to the Bar.

The purport of Mr. Chamberlaine's evidence was, that in about two years after his coming into office, he heard frequent complaints of the diminution of the gold coin; that in the year 1757, for the first time, he had notice from the bank of their suspicions of one Wood: that accordingly Wood was apprehended in bed, by which means they got into possession of all his papers; that by them it appeared he had several accomplices placed in different situations, having had a falseman at Smithfield, and some others, besides two houses himself, one at Ilkington and another at Birmingham; that by drawing bills from the country, discounting and making provision for them in diminished money, they had effected their schemes; that

it appeared, within the space of one year, they had circulated above 100,000*l.* of clipped or filed money. He instanced another person, who on a capital of 100*l.* had cleared 1000*l.* within the year, by the same methods. He next proceeded to Yorkshire, where, in a variety of instances, he showed those practices were out of the power of detection; observing, that at one time there were no less than 83 clippers and coiners in the several prisons in the county of York, and on his advising with the Attorney and Solicitor General, and informing them that the evidence to be produced was that of accomplices, they wished that before he got down, the offenders might make their escape. He said, that many of the guineas thus diminished, wanted 5*s.* 4*d.* but the general deficiency was on an average from 2*s.* 6*d.* to 4*s.* that the temptation was great, and almost beyond the power of detection, because the usual implement used on the occasion was a file, which every wool-comber used in his business; that as the operation was simple in itself, so was the means of disposing of the filings; for as soon as the latter amounted to half-a-guinea, it was only going to one of the counterfeit mints, and getting them coined into one; that one of the matters of those mints was called King David by way of eminence, and was at length convicted and executed for the crime; and that the act of the last session had in a great measure remedied those evils, for he had heard no complaints of this nature whatever, since it was passed. He quoted several other instances of a similar nature, particularly of Guest the Bank clerk. Being asked by Lord North about lending out guineas for hire, he acquainted the committee, that to such a pitch had this evil arrived in Yorkshire and Lancashire, that it was at length become customary with the indigent filers, to pay fixpence for the loan of a guinea for an hour, and so in proportion for a number, in order to operate on them.

Mr. Lucas, assay master, was next examined. His answers to the questions put to him by Lord North, were, that there could be no possible method of coining devised, sufficient to prevent counterfeiters; that the Mint had for eight months past coined at the rate of 90,000*l.* per week, or 15,000*l.* per day; that they could not exceed that amount, or for a constancy keep up to it; that no silver coinage could go on, without stopping or interrupting that of gold; that if a silver coinage was to take place, houses should be erected, and another assayer procured for the purpose; and, supposing the apparatus were ready, it would take a year or two before an assayer could be sufficiently instructed to conduct the business.

Lord North. The very ruinous state of the gold coin, which has been so fully proved by one of the witnesses at the bar, induced me, though so late in the sessions, to bring in a bill last year, if not to totally remedy

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medy the evil, at least to prevent its increase; and I am extremely happy in thinking, that it had in a great measure the desired effect.

This act and consequent explanation has already brought into the Bank alone 3,400,000*l.* and will probably bring in much more. But while I see with satisfaction, the evils we have in some measure suppressed, and the very enormous abuses we have avoided by a general indemnification, we must not forget that these advantages are balanced by an engagement we are absolutely obliged, upon every principle of good faith, to perform; for, by giving a currency to guineas of a certain weight, we have in fact bound ourselves to make them good to the holders at the value they took them at; I shall therefore move, that all guineas coined before the reign of George II. which now pass at 5*dwts.* 6*grs.* that is 6*grs.* less than their full weight; and all other guineas, coined before the first of January, 1772, which now have an allowance of 5*grs.* and are current at 5*dwts.* 6*grs.* shall be called in by proclamation; and those matters respecting the coin come within the prerogative of the crown, as money is to be raised to defray the expence, I shall bring in a bill to make a compensation to the holders of such guineas, by delivering in return others of full weight. The whole expence of this to the public will not exceed 250,000*l.*

For the present it will be necessary to fix one general standard for guineas, which I propose to be at 5*dwts.* 8*grs.* I am well aware that a guinea immediately from the Mint weighs something more than 5*dwts.* 8*grs.* and that they will not suffer a diminution of a grain for a series of years by fair wear; but to avoid confusion, and that the temptation to diminish will be so very trifling, and can be only at all worth while on very large sums, I think that standard will obviate every material inconvenience; for who will think it worth while, when, on 12,000 new guineas no more than 100*l.* can be made; a sum, in my opinion, not equal to the time and trouble, independent of the risk of punishment.

I shall further propose, that an officer be appointed at the Mint, that a standard for the weight of guineas and shillings shall be established there, and that no other weight but what is stamped by said officer, shall be deemed lawful.

On these respective resolutions, I shall move for a bill on some, and an address to his Majesty to issue a proclamation on others, and the remainder to lie over for further consideration till next session.

His Lordship then delivered seventeen resolutions to the Chairman, which were agreed to by the House; fourteen relative to the gold coin, and three to the silver; those relative to the latter are intended to prevent the bringing to Great Britain or Ireland light silver of the coin, or importing to be the coin of this realm, and leaving persons at

liberty to receive no sum in payment of that coin, exceeding 50*l.* except by weight.

18. *The following is an authentic account of the Supplies and Ways and Means for the current year, as stated by Lord North in the House this day.*

SUPPLIES, 1774.

	<i>l.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>
Navy — — —	1,902,917	4 3
Ordnance — — —	271,124	17 7
Army — — —	1,549,720	14 8
Miscellaneous services —	60,252	13 0
Extra expence of recoinage	240,000	0 0
Exchequer bills discharged	1,000,000	0 0
<i>Deficiency, viz.</i>		
Coinage unprovided for	3,311	11 3
3 $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. ann. 1758	43,645	12 0
Malt — — —	284,835	12 6
Land — — —	215,164	7 6
Towards discharge of Navy debt — — —	200,000	0 0
Lottery prizes discharged	600,000	0 0
1,000,000 <i>l.</i> 3 per cent. ann. discharged at 88 per cent.	880,000	0 0

Excess of ways and means 7,266,472 12 9
74,998 0 8

7,341,470 13 5

WAYS and MEANS, 1774.

	<i>l.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>
Land — — —	1,500,000	0 0
Malt — — —	750,000	0 0
Surplus in Sinking Fund, 5 Jan. — — —	113,190	11 7
Surplus in Sinking Fund, 5 April — — —	619,303	7 4
Growing produce of S. Fund	2,080,696	12 8
American revenues —	15,000	0 0
Duty on gum seneca —	2,000	0 0
French prize money —	17,000	0 0
Sale of ceded islands —	50,000	0 0
Sundry surplusses in the Exchequer by vote the 18th of May — — —	67,298	14 3
Surplus of grants, 1773	126,981	7 5
New Exchequer bills created	1,250,000	0 0
Lottery for 60,000 tickets, at 12 <i>l.</i> 10 <i>s.</i> — — —	750,000	0 0

7,341,470 13 5

19. Both Houses of Parliament presented a joint address to his Majesty, praying his Majesty to issue his royal proclamation, appointing certain days, after which, guineas weighing less than 5 pennyweights, 8 grains, half-guineas, weighing less than 2 pennyweights, 16 grains, and quarter-guineas, weighing less than 2 pennyweight, 8 grains, shall not be allowed to pass, except to such persons as his Majesty shall authorize to receive and exchange the same. Also to appoint certain other days, after which the said guineas, half-guineas, and quarter-guineas, shall not be allowed to pass in any

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payment whatsoever, or be exchanged in any manner before-mentioned.—To which his Majesty returned the following most gracious answer: "My Lords and Gentlemen, the attention you have given to a matter in which the commerce and revenue of my kingdom are so nearly concerned, affords me the highest satisfaction; and you may depend upon my giving the necessary orders for carrying the measures you recommend into immediate execution."

20. This day his Majesty went to the House in the usual state, and gave the royal assent to, an Act for the more impartial administration of justice in the province of Massachusetts's Bay;—an Act for better regulating the civil government of the province of Massachusetts's Bay;—an Act to continue an Act for establishing certain free ports in Jamaica;—an Act to indemnify persons who have omitted to qualify themselves for offices or employments;—an Act for the better regulation of private mad-houses;—an Act for regulating insurances on lives, and for prohibiting all such insurances, except in cases where the persons insuring shall have an interest in the life or death of the persons insured;—an Act for the more effectually preventing frauds and abuses committed in the manufacture of hats, woollen, linen, and cotton;—an Act to make a navigable cut or canal from the port or harbour of Bude, to the river Tamer, in Cornwall;—an Act to prohibit the importation of light silver coin of this realm, from foreign countries, into Great Britain or Ireland, and to restrain the tender of any sum beyond 50*l.* in payment; and to several other bills.

June 2. This day the royal assent, by commission, was given to—An act to provide suitable quarters for the officers and soldiers in America;—an act to regulate the price of corn exported;—an act for continuing an act for allowing the exportation of rice from Carolina and Georgia to the southward of Cape Finisterre;—an act for repealing such acts as relate to the residence of persons to be elected members to serve in parliament;—an act for preserving the health of prisoners in gaols, and preventing the gaol distemper;—an act to prevent frauds in the buying and selling of hops;—an act to repeal so much of the late turnpike act, as exempts persons from the payment of tolls, at sideways;—an act to alter and amend an act for annexing certain forfeited estates in Scotland, to the Crown unalienably, so far as the same relates to the granting leases of the said estates;—an act for the repeal of former acts concerning the Longitude at sea, and for the more effectual encouragement and reward of such person or persons as shall discover a method for finding the same, or shall make useful discoveries in navigation;—and to several other public and private bills.

* 17. This day the royal assent, by commission, was given to—An act for raising

a certain sum by loan of exchequer bills, for the service of the present year;—an act to prevent the exportation of utensils made use of in the cotton, linen, woollen, and silk manufactures;—an act for ascertaining the duty on printed, stained, or dyed cotton stuffs;—an act to extend so much of a late act as relates to distillers or makers of low wines and spirits from corn, to every kind of distiller, and for the more effectual securing the revenue of excise arising from low wines and spirits;—an act for reducing the duties payable upon the importation of great raisins;—an act for the better encouragement of the making of sail-cloth;—an act to prevent certain inconveniences by bills of naturalization;—an act for explaining an act to reduce the rate of interest without prejudice to parliamentary securities;—an act to prevent mischiefs arising from driving cattle within the cities of London and Westminster;—an act to improve and complete the navigation of the river Thames westward of London-bridge;—an act to regulate elections of members to serve in parliament for Scotland;—an act for the better regulation of buildings and party-walls, and for more effectually preventing mischiefs by fire within the cities of London and Westminster;—an act for explaining and altering a clause in the late general turnpike act, relative to the payment of additional tolls at weighing engines, and the number of horses to be used in carriages drawn on turnpike roads, and for allowing certain exemptions with respect to weight and payment of toll in particular cases;—and to several other public and private bills.

22. This day his Majesty went to the House of Peers, and gave the royal assent to the sinking fund bill,—the lottery bill;—the bill for making more effectual provision for the government of the province of Quebec;—the bill for laying several additional duties on liquors imported into the province of Quebec;—the bill for regulating and ascertaining the weights to be made use of in weighing the gold and silver coin;—the bill for applying a sum of money for recoining the

* The act for making more effectual provision for the government of Quebec, extends the province southward to the banks of the Ohio, westward to the banks of the Mississippi, and northward to the boundary of the Hudson's Bay Company.—It grants the Roman clergy the free exercise of their religion; and establishes the French law in civil cases, according to which determinations are made by a majority of the judges of the court, and not by a jury; but in criminal cases the English law of trial by jury is retained.—This bill originated in the House of Lords, and was violently opposed in the House of Commons;—after passing both Houses, the Lord Mayor and Court of Aldermen petitioned his Majesty to refuse his royal assent to it. The Duke of Gloucester, Lords Chatham, Coventry, Sandys, Effingham, King, and Spencer, all opposed it.

the deficient gold coin;—the expiring laws bill;—the insolvent debtors bill†; and two private bills; after which his Majesty made the following most gracious speech to both Houses of Parliament:

“My Lords and Gentlemen,

“I have observed, with the utmost satisfaction, the many eminent proofs you have given of your zealous and prudent attention to the public service, during the course of this very interesting session of Parliament.

“The necessity of providing some effectual remedy for the great and manifold mischiefs, both public and private, arising from the impaired state of the gold coin, induced me, at the opening of the session, to recommend that important object to your consideration: In the several measures you have taken for the redress of these evils, you have sufficiently manifested, as well your regard to the general credit, and commercial interests, of the kingdom, as to the immediate ease and accommodation of my people.

“The very peculiar circumstances of embarrassment in which the province of Quebec was involved, had rendered the proper adjustment and regulation of the government thereof, a matter of no small difficulty. The bill which you prepared for that purpose, and to which I have now given my assent, is founded on the clearest principles of justice and humanity; and will, I doubt not, have the best effects in quieting the minds, and promoting the happiness, of my Canadian subjects.

“I have long seen with concern, a dangerous spirit of resistance to my government, and to the execution of the laws, prevailing in the province of Massachusetts Bay, in New-England. It proceeded at length to such an extremity, as to render your immediate interposition indispensably necessary; and you have accordingly made provision, as well for

† *By the Insolvent Act, all persons who are in actual custody at the time of its receiving the royal assent, and whose debts do not exceed 2000l. are dischargeable;—and all uncertificated Bankrupts who are under arrest for any debts contracted prior to their commission, (which must have been on or before the 25th of March last) may receive the benefit of this act.*

the suppression of the present disorders, as for the prevention of the like in future. The temper and firmness with which you have conducted yourselves in this important business, and the general concurrence with which the resolution of maintaining the authority of the laws, in every part of my dominions, hath been adopted and supported, cannot fail of giving the greatest weight to the measures which have been the result of your deliberations. Nothing that depends on me shall be wanting to render them effectual. It is my most anxious desire to see my deluded subjects, in that part of the world, returning to a sense of their duty, acquiescing in that just subordination to the authority, and maintaining that due regard to the commercial interests of this country, which must ever be inseparably connected with their own real prosperity and advantage.

“Nothing material has happened, since your meeting, with respect to the war between Russia and the Porte; and it is with pleasure I can inform you, that the very friendly assurances which I continue to receive from the neighbouring powers, give me the strongest reasons to believe, that they have the same good dispositions as myself, to preserve the tranquillity of the rest of Europe.

“Gentlemen of the House of Commons,

“I thank you for the supplies, which you have so cheerfully given, and I see with great satisfaction, that, notwithstanding the ample grants you have made for the several establishments, and the compensation which has been so properly provided for the holders of the deficient gold coin, you have been able to make a further progress in the reduction of the national debt.

“My Lords and Gentlemen,

“I have nothing to recommend to you, but, that you would carry into your respective counties, the same affectionate attachment to my person and government, and the same zeal for the maintenance of the public welfare, which have distinguished all your proceedings in this session of Parliament.”

[Then the Lord Chancellor, by his Majesty's command, prorogued the Parliament to Thursday the 4th of August.]

A JOURNAL OF OCCURRENCES, FOREIGN and DOMESTIC, from the Beginning of the Year, to the latter End of JUNE, 1774.

Florence, Jan. 28.

THE restitution of Avignon and Benevento to the See of Rome, has been notified in that city.—*London, Gaz.*

Constantinople, Feb. 3. Immediately on the death of the late Grand Signor on the 11th inst, the great officers were called into the Seraglio: upon their arrival, the present Grand Signor was conducted out of his apartments,

in which he had been confined 44 years, into the apartments of his deceased brother, and, after viewing the corpse, he retired to a throne erected for him, where the great officers were permitted to kiss his garment. The late Grand Signor was interred in the mosque of Laleli Jamié, four hours after his death. On Thursday the 27th, the day appointed for what is called here the coronation, the

procession by land was numerous and magnificent to the mosque of Ejup, where the sword was girt on the Grand Signor by the nahib Effendi, or head of the Emirs, vicar to the sheich of Conia; from thence he returned by water to the seraglio.

Petersburgh, Jan. 25. A revolt has happened in part of this empire; and the Court has published a manifesto against Jemelman, Pugatcheff, the chief of the rebels, who has taken upon him the name of the late Emperor, Peter the third, and in consequence thereof is endeavouring to augment his party. The Empress, to quell this sedition at its first appearance, and to convince her subjects what imminent danger they are threatened with, has appointed General Bibikow to march at the head of a large detachment of troops against the rebels, who have been daring enough to attack all the troops they have met with, and massacre the officers in a cruel manner.

[This extraordinary adventurer (Pugatcheff) who is a Cossack, and learnt his knowledge of the art military in the Prussian army, seems to possess a knowledge of men as well as arms, and in order to encourage his confederates, he at once gratifies their vanity and their prejudices; he compasses the first by granting them titles and orders, and the latter by allowing them to wear their beards, and permitting them to make the sign of the cross with two fingers. Whimsical as this last circumstance may seem, it has greatly endeared his adherents to him, and animated them to signalize themselves in his favour, as it was a prejudice which they had greatly at heart, and which was abolished by Peter the Great. The Empress's Generals have nevertheless been at length successful against Pugatcheff, who has sustained two repulses, with a considerable loss. The Empress, however, apprehensive that he may recover from these defeats, has put the price of 100,000 roubles upon his head, dead or alive.]

Madeira, Jan. 29. On the 8th instant a violent storm happened here, and the following ships were driven on shore and lost, viz. the sloop Harriott, Capt. Dickinson; and the Garland, Capt. Englis, were both lost, and all the crew perished; a Portuguese snow, and a Portuguese schooner were lost, and 15 people perished, only 4 saved; the Triton, Saunders, from New-York, is lost, and all the crew perished, except the mate and boy. The Hankey, M'Intosh, fr. London to the Grenades, very richly laden, is lost, and all the crew perished, except the captain and cook. The Richard and Mary, Hurst, from Corke, is on shore, the crew saved. The Hoppett, Blackman, from Gottenburgh, was driven on shore, the crew saved, but the ship is gone to pieces. More than 100 people lost their lives in this storm.

Petersburgh, Feb. 4. The beginning of last month, Gen. Bibikow set out at the head of 15,000 men, against the rebels in the Orenbourg government; and in order to hasten his march, he put his whole army into sledges,

officers, soldiers, artillery, baggage, and provision; they filled 20,000 sledges, and set out with the usual velocity of those conveyances to the music of the whole army. They had 500 miles to go before they arrived at their journey's end.

Cologne, Feb. 22. By letters received here from Kiow, in Russia Minor, the rebel Pugatcheff continues his exactions in the neighbourhood of Orenbourg. He massacres all the Russian subjects, but spares the foreigners and peasants, in hopes of gaining them over to his party. He has already ravaged the lines of Sakaran, and depopulated the fortresses which served as barriers to that country; he has plundered the town of Ossa, and made incursions towards Moscow, and the opposite side towards Astracan: All the officers who fall into his hands must enter into his service or lose their lives, most of whom prefer their honour to their life.

Hague, Feb. 23. We hear from Stockholm, that the college of physicians there have represented to the king, that, from experiments they have made, it has been found, that the leaves of potatoes answer the end of tobacco for smoking, and that the smell is also very agreeable.

Warsaw, March 2. The taxes for defraying the expences of the Republic meet with many difficulties. The Vice Chancellor hath given an answer, in the name of the King, to the deputation of the Delegates, that his Majesty lost, first, 4,035,000 florins per ann. by the dismemberment of Poland. Secondly, 5,999,825 florins by the loss of the salt-pits and the stewardships of Sambor, Cracow, and Sendomir. Thirdly, 8,284,004 florins by damages occasioned by the troubles in 1768. And Fourthly, 3,000,000 of florins in salt and ready money: that these sums greatly surmount the debts which the King hath contracted, and which he is ardently solicitous to pay; but as neither his possessions, or those of his family, are sufficient, his Majesty requests the attention of the Republic to this subject, and concludes in the following terms: "Make, in the first place, a calculation of what you can do, and afterwards of what you will do—I demand nothing but the payment of my debts, and will content myself with whatever you shall grant for my revenues."—[*A Polish florin is 11. 2d.*]

Constantinople, March 3. Nothing serves more to shew the disposition of the Grand Signor, with respect to carrying on war, than the following order, signed by his own hand, which has been transmitted to all the chief commanders of his several armies.

"By the decease of the Emperor Sultan Mustapha, my predecessor and brother, who, by divine providence, is passed to a state of eternal bliss, the empire and supreme command being come to me by right of heritage and succession, my first business was to enter the apartment where is kept the precious deposit of Skhrichai-Scheriff, of the sacred

Mohamed-

L O N D O N.

Jan. 15. This day two smart shocks of an earthquake were felt in every house in Vienna, but no damage done.

26. Robert Leigh was executed at Tyburn for forgery; he behaved with great decency and penitence, and was universally pitied, being a very genteel man, and not exceeding 22 years of age.

28. Wm. Townshend, of Ampney Crucis near Cirencester, was committed to Gloucester castle, for most barbarously attempting to murder Rowland Newell, who keeps a public-house in that village. The villain, after all the company had left the house, took up a hatchet and gave Newell so desperate a blow upon the head, that he cut out one of his eyes, and fractured his skull, so that he fell down as dead. Townshend then proceeded to rife the house, but Newell coming to his senses called out *murder!* and a shoemaker, who lodged there, rose and seized the villain.

28. This day at noon a waggon loaded with fine large pit coal, arrived in town from Bedworth, in Warwickshire, drawn by eighteen men. This extraordinary performance took its rise from the late severity of the weather; which having frozen up the Oxford and Coventry canals, the workmen usually working thereon became destitute of employ; a gentleman therefore of Willoughby proposed the adventure to them, giving them a load of the finest coals in order to present to his Majesty; accordingly, on their arrival at St. James's, the Honourable Board of Green Cloth, who were sitting, being informed of the nature of their visit, sent them twenty guineas, advising them to husband it well till they got home, and acquainting them at the same time, that they might otherwise dispose of their load as they thought proper.—The men were all dressed in their working frocks, drawing in rope harness three a-breast. They collected considerable sums of money through every place they passed, particularly in the metropolis, as the novelty of the sight drew together an uncommon number of spectators from all parts.

Feb. 2. This night a dreadful fire broke out at Mr. Reeves's, brewer, in Groves-street, Deptford, which consumed the dwelling and brew-houses, and five other tenements adjoining, no water being to be got on account of the frost.

4. A sloop from Bourdeaux for Dublin, with brandy, was wrecked the 16th past about six miles from Dublin, and the inhabitants of the neighbourhood came in great numbers, and plundered the wreck. They drank to such excess of the brandy, that 14 of them died on the spot.

Sunday morning about two o'clock, a dreadful fire broke out in the apartments of Capt. Collier, in Great Queen-street, Lincoln's-inn fields, which in less than an hour entirely consumed the house, and it was

with

Mohamed-ab-Meustapha, in my seraglio, or imperial palace, comparable to paradise; there imploring the intercession and spiritual assistance of this glorious prophet, I raised my hand towards heaven, and prayed the supreme being to ordain the destruction and annihilation of the enemies of truth; to pour down upon them some striking vengeance, and to grant his grace to his true believers, to recover from them the countries wretted from us. It was not till after this solemn prayer, with the assent of the magnificent vizirs and doctors of the law, and with the homage and submission of the officers of the seraglio, that I took possession of the august Ottoman throne. Renewing, therefore, the orders given in the time of my predecessor, I enjoin you, by the present supreme command, to make all military preparations and dispositions with all the celerity possible, and to render yourself without delay to my Imperial Camp, at the head of a body of chosen troops, where, armed with courage and zeal, you are to spare neither danger nor trouble for the service of the state and religion."

Petersburgh, April 19. Yesterday in the evening a messenger arrived from Gen. Bibikow, with the agreeable account of the rebellion being extinguished, by the total defeat and dispersion of the rebel army, in an action which happened the 25th of March, at Tatisczewa, 30 wersts from Oremburg: in which 2000 of the rebels were killed, and 3000 taken prisoners. Their chief, Pugatscheff, found means to escape. The detachment of troops, which performed this service, was commanded by Major-General Galitzin, brother to the Vice-Chancellor. Four Russian officers and 200 private soldiers were killed, and between 5 and 600 wounded.

Petersburgh, May 3. An express arrived from Gen. Bibikow on Saturday night last, with an account that Prince Galitzin had again engaged a body of the rebels, commanded by their chief, on the borders of the Yaick, which he entirely defeated, Pugatscheff escaping with only 14 men. It seems that after the former action they found means to assemble some thousands of the fugitives, with which he engaged a second time with the above corps.—Gazette.

Petersburgh, May 6. On Wednesday last this court received the very disagreeable account of the death of Gen. Bibikow. His Sovereign and the Empire could not at any time, but particularly at this period, have sustained a greater loss. His known probity and great military knowledge, gave him the just title to the favour and confidence of her Imperial Majesty. Lieut. Gen. Prince Stcherbatow is named to succeed him.

So quick a transition from cold to heat as we now experience, has been seldom observed here. Though the Port of Cronstadt is but just opened, and the snow and ice have barely disappeared, the degree of heat is very near equal to that of the dog days.

with the utmost difficulty that the family escaped with their lives, with the loss of plate, cloaths, furniture, and every thing of value; all the family would have been destroyed had not the key been fortunately left in the street door.—It is imagined the accident happened from linen being left to air before a very small fire.

The extra expence of the fleet, during his Majesty's review at Portsmouth, stands charged in the navy accounts at 4983l. 17s.

The John and Mary, Amherst, from the Baltic, is totally lost at Shetland; all the crew perished.

17. A duel was fought near Baldoyle, in Ireland, between Sir Edward Newenham and Mr. Sheriff Tucker. Each gentleman fired a case of pistols;—one ball touched a lock of the Sheriff's hair, and went thro' his hat. As soon as the pistols were discharged, the seconds interfered, and the parties shook hands.

Monday a boat was over-set near Shadwell, by running foul of a ship's cable, by which accident Mr. Garnell, hop-factor, in East Smithfield, and his son, a youth about 23, were drowned.

16. The widows of all the livery servants who die in future in the service of any of the Royal Family, are to have pensions from 10l. to 20l. per annum.

21. A few days ago was determined at Edinburgh, before Lord Auchinleck, a curious cause relative to the game laws; an action of damages was brought by the Marquis of Tweeddale, against two gentlemen for breaking through his inclosures at a fox-chace. The hardship of having inclosures destroyed, and the detriment it must be to the improvement of the country, was insisted on for the pursuer. The defenders alleged, that as foxes were noxious animals, it was doing service to the country to destroy them, and there was no more harm in breaking through inclosures to do so, than it would be to use the same means to catch a thief. Judgment was given for the defenders.

25. The Lord Chancellor determined a cause in Lincoln's-Inn Hall, in which John William Hippisley, Esq; of Cheshunt, Herts, was plaintiff, and Miss Bailey, of Salisbury, defendant. The bill was brought to oblige the defendant to deliver up a bond, in which the plaintiff had made her a promise of marriage. His Lordship, after hearing part of the depositions, ordered 1000l. and costs, to be paid the defendant.

22. The House of Lords decided the cause concerning Literary Property, wherein Mr. Alexander Donaldson, of London, Bookseller, was appellant, and Mr. Becket, and other Bookellers of London, were respondents, upon a decree of the Court of Chancery, and reversed the process. The opinion of the Judges having been previously taken, the Judges were, Ashurst, Blackstone, Willes, Aiken, and Lord Chief Baron Smyth, declared in favour of the purchase of perpetual

copy right; and the Judges Eyre, Perrett, Adams, Gould, and Lord Chief Justice de Grey, against it.

By the above decision of the important question respecting copy-right in books, near 200,000l. worth of what was honestly purchased at public sale, and which was yesterday thought property, is now reduced to nothing. The booksellers of London and Westminster, many of whom sold estates and houses to purchase copy right, are in a manner ruined, and those who after many years industry thought they had acquired a competency to provide for their families, now find themselves without a shilling to devise to their successors.

The English booksellers have now no other security in future for any literary purchase they may make, but the statute of the 5th of Queen Anne, which secures to the author's assigns an exclusive property for 14 years, to revert again to the author, and vest in him for 14 years more.

23. Peter Queffnell, surnamed Benard, well known to the republic of letters by several works, and particularly by his history of the Jesuits, the two first volumes of which were printed at Utrecht in 1774, died lately at the Hague, aged 75 years. This author, who about three months ago completed his history of the Jesuits, about which he had been employed the greatest part of his life, was prevailed on a few hours before his death by some persons, who made it a point of conscience, to burn the manuscript, which would have made twenty volumes in twelve.

26. Wednesday came on in the court of King's Bench, before Lord Mansfield, the cause between the parish of St. Andrew, Holborn, and the society of Gray's-Inn, about the exemption insisted on by that society, for the payment of parish dues; when a verdict was found, after a very short hearing, in favour of the society.

Mr. C. J. Fox's dismissal from the Treasury bench was not in the usual way, which is by letter, saying, the king has no further occasion for the person. It was a laconic epistle to this effect: "A new commission is come out, and I do not see your name in it. N-th."

28. The late Dr. Smith's two premiums of 25l. each, to two Bachelors of Arts of the University of Cambridge, who, after the second examination, shall be found to excel in mathematical learning, was this year adjudged to Mr. Milner of Queen's, and Mr. Waring, of Magdalen College.

An old man died lately at a village near Newmarket, who just before his death seemed very unhappy, said he had a burthen on his conscience which he must disclose, and then contented that he set fire to the barn at Barwell in Cambridgeshire, on the 5th of September 1727, when upwards of 80 persons unhappily lost their lives; that he was an hatter at that time near Cambridge, and

that he had perpetrated that diabolical action in resentment to the puppet-shewman who had refused him admittance. The account of this shocking deed is related as follows:

"Some strollers had hired a barn at Burwell, in which they acted a puppet-shew; and to make it commodious for the purpose, the great barn door was fattened up, and a little door made for persons to pass in and out singly, that being also locked up when they had got their complement of spectators; but in the midst of their merriment the barn was on fire, and there being a floor above them which fired, it fell down and smothered above a hundred men, women, and children, who perished in the flames, and seven or eight houses were consumed."

At the assizes at Cambridge in 1723, one Richard Whitaker, charged with setting fire to the above barn, was tried and acquitted.

March 2. This morning the following malefactors were executed at Tyburn, viz. John Osborn, alias Hobson, and Thomas Murrell, alias Cliff, for house-breaking; and Robert Simmonds and James Bishop, for highway robbery. They all behaved penitent.

Mr. Goddridge, surgeon, in Swan-street, Southwark, was robbed on Blackheath of 39 guineas, by a single highwayman, generally mounted, who desired Mr. Goddridge to be expeditious in delivering his money, he being in a hurry to get home to clean himself, being engaged at an assembly.

5. At Winchester assizes an action was brought by Miss Eliz. Forder, of Pitt, near Winchester, against — Calley, Esq; for a breach of promise of marriage. — As many aspersions had been given out against the young lady's character on the part of the defendant, the court was uncommonly crowded. In the course of the trial it was fully proved that Mr. Calley had not only promised her marriage, but had also ordered his attorney to prepare a settlement for her and the issue of the said marriage of 300*l.* a year, payable out of his estate near Swindon in North Wiltshire; and that he had also fixed the day of marriage; and as nothing was proved against the young lady on the part of the defendant, the jury, (which was special) after a short consideration, gave their verdict for the plaintiff, with 400*l.* damages.

12. Notwithstanding Lord Sandwich's promise to accept of 300*l.* instead of 2000*l.* given him by a late verdict, Mr. Miller, the printer, was on Wednesday taken into custody for the whole damages and costs, and carried to the Poultry Compter; but was the next day removed by a habeas to the Fleet prison, within the rule: of which he carries on his business.

12. This day there was the highest tide at Westminster that has been known for forty years past; it came in at the door of the wooden bridge in New Palace-yard, and reached within half a yard of Hall-gate; the Exchequer and Oliver's coffee-houses were filled with water; the chamber at the end

mentioned, being under the coffee-room, received the greatest damage. Oliver's, being level with the pavement, was filled in an instant, as were all the rooms and cellars of the Royal Oak public-house adjoining.

The level from Chelsea to Battersea was entirely overflowed, and considerable damage done to the garden grounds and young plantations; two west-country barges were by the force of the current carried out of the channel of the Thames, and left in Battersea fields when the flood abated.

At Fulham, the tide was higher than ever was known; towards the top of the tide it suddenly flowed more than a foot in a few minutes; the marshes were overflowed several miles round, and some sheep in a field near the water side were carried down by the stream and drowned; boats were rowed in several gentlemen's gardens, and the watermen landed their fares in the middle of the town.

At Kingston the water reached up to the Town-Hall, and spread over far the greater part of the town. The people could not keep the market there on Saturday last; and a great deal of damage was done by it in several parts of the town, especially to Mr. Roles, brewer, whose loss is estimated at 1000*l.* It has undermined the church so much that the damage is supposed to be at least 300*l.* besides tearing up the graves, &c. and doing a great deal of hurt by the river side both here and at other places adjacent.

The waters were so much out at Maidenhead-bridge, that the Newbury, Reading, and several other stages could not come to town: Staines-bridge was likewise impassable.

The waters on the Birmingham, Worcester, and Gloucester roads, were equally alarming, all kinds of travelling in divers places being rendered totally impracticable.

Letters from Bristol, Bath, Reading, Salisbury, Southampton, and other parts of the country, mention the great damages done at those places by the late rains.

16. Wednesday Farmer Dowdeswell, of Guiting in Gloucestershire, having sent his son, with a servant man and boy, to take a load of barley at Winchcomb, the cold was so extremely severe on the hills, that Mr. Dowdeswell's son and two horses were frozen to death, and the man and boy so benumbed that they were recovered with great difficulty.

18. Wednesday the six following convicts were executed at Hereford, viz. John Pratt, John Ferris, Wm. Sharp, Joseph Seale, Rd. Darby, and John Hopkinson, otherwise Thomas Willson, all for highway robberies.

23. Friday evening a clergyman at Cornhampton, in Hants, shot himself in the breast, and expired immediately. — A singular expression dropped from him the same day, viz. *That he had preached the gospel to others, but had not received himself by its precepts.*

25. Yesterday was executed at Tyburn, Jane Cornforth, for the murder of her male bastard child.

25. At Shrewsbury assizes, a cause came on before Sir James Eyre, Knt. and a special jury, wherein the Hon. the Earl of Plymouth was plaintiff, and Samuel Soothall, of the Talbot New Inn in that county, defendant: The action was brought by his Lordship, against the defendant, for refusing him entertainment at his house; but upon the defendant's submitting himself in court, a verdict was given for his Lordship with only 40s. damages and costs; it appearing to the satisfaction of the court and jury, that by the law and custom of this realm innkeepers are obliged to receive and entertain their guests.

26. An express, brought by the Mercury packet, Captain Sharp, which is arrived at Kinsale from Bengal and Fort St. George, gives an account of the taking of Tanjour by General Smith, which will prove of the greatest advantage to the India Company. Gen. Smith's prize money, it is said, will amount to 150,000l. as commander in chief; the Captains who were at the siege will receive about 800l. sterling each, and the subaltern officers about 400l. The company is to have a tribute of 100 lacks of rupees from one of the Princes of the Carnatic, for being put in possession of Tanjour.

The following melancholy accident happened at the siege of Tanjour. Wm. Campbell, Esq; from Edinburgh, accompanied by his brother and another officer, having gone beyond the lines to reconnoitre the enemy's works, were called to by one of our centinels, (a Sepoy). Mr. Campbell made an answer which was not understood by the centinel, who immediately shot him dead.

The Lord Mansfield East-Indiaman, Capt. Frazer, is lost at Bengal; the crew saved.

27. When Sir Robert Fletcher related some of the facts on Thursday at the East-India house, relative to the slaughter of the inhabitants of Marrawa, in the East-Indies, by a detachment of the army commanded by General Joseph Smith, but under the immediate direction of Col. Bonjour, several of the proprietors quitted the court, and the strongest marks of a mixture of horror, pity, and amazement, were visible on the countenances of those who staid to hear that shocking narrative. The story related by Sir Robert Fletcher was in substance as follows:—Gen. S. having marched at the head of the British troops, in conjunction with one of the Nabobs, against a Rajah of that country, the latter sent a messenger, with certain offers or conditions, which were accepted of by the former. The messenger accordingly returned to the Rajah, and informed him of the success of his embassy; relying on this assurance, the Rajah called in his advanced posts, all thoughts of hostilities were laid aside, and he looked upon himself in the most peaceful security. In the mean time Col. B. advanced with his detachment, and surprised the prince and his army, who were consequently unprepared, and put every one of

them to the sword without distinction, except the unhappy princesses, daughters of the Rajah; who were preserved only to gratify the brutal lusts of the inhuman butcher and ravisher, the Nabob. He added, that the officers concerned in this bloody business had extorted a previous promise from the Nabob's son, that if they should happen to be successful in this enterprize, he was to give them a largess of 50,000 pagodas, worth about 24 thousand pounds; but being afterwards unwilling to comply with this agreement, for the faithful performance of which he had given a bond, the General being appealed to as to its equity, confirmed the agreement, and decided in favour of the officers. Gen. Smith said, the massacre was occasioned by mistake, the courier dispatched to Col. B. not arriving time enough to advertise him of the armistice; as to the despoiling the daughters of the Rajah, he said, that was a claim established by the usages of the East; that the Nabob has a right to the persons of the daughters of his tributaries, or subordinate princes, from the Great Mogul downwards.

Thursday last final judgment was given in a great Tithe cause, long depending in the court of Exchequer. A bill was filed some years ago by the Rev. Thomas Bateman, chaplain to the Duke of Gordon, and vicar of Whaplede in Lincolnshire, against six of the principal inhabitants and the impropiators of the great tithes, for the tithe of agistment of barren and unprofitable cattle, and likewise for the tithe of certain lands formerly belonging to the abbey of Crowland, which was one of the greater abbeys dissolved by the 31st of Henry VIII. After a hearing of two days, and many learned arguments urged by the counsel on all sides, the Barons unanimously gave a decree in favour of the Vicar on both points, with arrears from the time of his induction.

Monday last James Glover was executed at Peterborough, pursuant to his sentence, for returning from transportation.

Monday as some gentlemen and ladies were courting near Stilton, in Cambridgeshire, they started what they thought a black rabbit, but when killed, to their astonishment it proved to be a coal-black hare. It was dressed at the Bell at Stilton, and the skin afterwards stuffed, to be preserved as a curiosity.

There are at present 28 parishes in Kent without a resident preacher, and where the fact of rector, vicar, or curate, is never seen but once a week in the whole year.

31. The duty on wheel carriages for the year 1773 in Scotland, exceeded that of the two preceding years near one half.

32. Some gentlemen of the Society of Antiquaries, being desirous to see how far the actual state of Edward I's body answered to the methods taken to preserve it, by writs issued from time to time, in the reigns of

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Edward III. and Henry IV. to the treasury, to renew the vow about it, several of which are printed in Rymer's *Fœdera*, obtained leave to open the large stone sarcophagus in which it was deposited, on the north side of Edward the Confessor's chapel. This was accordingly done this morning, when in a coffin of yellow stone, they found the royal body, in perfect preservation, wrapt in two wrappers, one of them of gold tissue, strongly waxed, and fresh; the outermost more decayed. The corpse was habited in a rich mantle of purple, paned with white, and adorned with ornaments of gilt metal, studded with red and blue stones and pearls. Two similar ornaments lay on his hands. The mantle was fastened on the right shoulder by a magnificent *fibula* of the same metal, with the same stones and pearls. His face had over it a silken covering, so fine, and so closely fitted to it, as to preserve the features entire. Round his temples was a gilt coronet of fleurs de lis. In his hands, which were also entire, were two sceptres of gilt metal; that in the right surmounted by a cross fleury, that in the left by three clusters of oak leaves, and a dove on a globe; this scepter was about five feet long. The feet were enveloped in the mantle and other coverings, but found, and the toes distinct. The whole length of the corpse was five feet two inches. As it does not appear that any of the above-mentioned writs were issued since the reign of Henry IV. the body must have been preserved above three centuries and a half, in the state in which it was now found, by virtue of the embalment originally bestowed on it; and, as every thing was restored with the strictest care, and the tomb secured beyond a possibility of ever being opened again, it may continue, at least, as many centuries longer.—Edward I. died at Burge upon Sands, in Cumberland, in his way to Scotland, July 7, 1307, in the 68th year of his age.

21. At Warwick assizes, Wm. Tomson, a lad only twelve years of age, was capitally convicted of robbing and intending to murder his master, John Darlefon, a weaver.—The master had given the lad some correction for neglecting his work, which the boy determined to revenge; and, hiding himself in the bed-chamber, as soon as his master was asleep, he made a cut at his throat with a large knife; but it luckily happened that Mr. Darlefon had neglected his usual custom of putting off his neckcloth, and that secured him from the blow. Darlefon instantly started up in a fright, but the boy hiding himself behind the curtain, he imagined that his terror was occasioned only by a dream; he lay down again and went to sleep. As soon as the boy found he was asleep, he renewed his attempt; but the master started up again, and was now so much shocked that it was a considerable time before he could prevail on himself to lie down; however, at length he

lay down, and only pretended to go to sleep, when the wretch made another violent stroke at him; but Mr. Darlefon then caught his hand, and jumping up, secured him.

We hear from Cricklade, Wilts, that a large seizure of tea having been lately made at a little public-house in that neighbourhood, the whole was not only forfeited, but the landlord fined 146l.; for which the whole of his effects were seized.—It is hoped this will be a sufficient caution, and deter others from attempting to conceal contraband goods.

The following is the progressive increase of the revenue of the Post-office. In 1644, Mr. Edmund Prideaux, who was inland Post-master, was supposed to collect about 5000l. per ann. In 1654, the Parliament farmed the posts to Mr. Manley, at 10,000l. In 1664, Daniel O'Neal, Esq; farmed them at 21,500l. In 1674, they were let out at 43,000l. In 1685, the gross was estimated at 65,000l. In 1688, the posts amount was 76,328l. In 1697, it was, according to Dr. Davenant, 90,505l. In 1710, they were 111,461l. In 1715, the gross amount of the inland office, came to 145,227l. In 1744, the same amounted to 198,126l. but the total gross amount of both inland and foreign offices, which can alone demonstrate the extent of our correspondence, was that year 235,492l. And in 1764, the gross amount was 432,048l.

April 6. On Friday the 1st instant, (being Good-Friday) a dreadful fire happened in the parish of Colerne, in the county of Wilts, which was so rapid that the utmost efforts to stop it were unavailable, and so sudden that scarcely any thing could be saved from the flames. It reduced to ashes 42 dwelling-houses, (most of which were inhabited by the poorer sort of people) two malt-houses, 18 barns, 7 stables, 36 out-houses, 3 wheat ricks, and 3 hay ricks, and reduced 63 families (besides lodgers) to the greatest distress.—The fire is said to have been communicated to the thatched dwellings, by a spark from a brewhouse adjoining. The loss was estimated at more than 4000l.

The same afternoon, a dreadful fire broke out at the house of one Drakewood, in the Abbey Foregate in Shrewsbury, which communicated itself to the buildings adjoining. The wind being very high, by four o'clock it is supposed near twenty houses were destroyed, most of which being thatched were in flames at the same time, notwithstanding they were situated in different parts of the street, and some of them a considerable distance from each other. In the course of the next two hours near 50 more houses fell victims to the flames. By seven o'clock the flames were much abated. The number of houses destroyed are about fifty, exclusive of barns, stables, ricks of hay, trees, &c. This destruction was occasioned by a chimney being accidentally set on fire. What is remarkable, the House where it began was saved; and providentially no lives were lost.

The same day a dreadful fire also happened at Eastree, in the parish of Whittlesea, in the Isle of Ely, occasioned by a person brewing a bushel of malt; some sparks of fire issuing from the chimney set fire to the house, and burnt down 17 houses, besides five barns, out-houses, &c. It also consumed five horses, one cow, and three hogs. As it happened upon persons of small property, who in this dreadful conflagration lost their all, it is the more deplorable.

7. This day arrived over land an express from the Governor and Council of Bombay, to the Directors of the East-India Company, which brings advice, that 200,000 persons had died of the plague at Bassora; that no less than two millions of people had perished in the several provinces of Persia; that in Bassora alone from 3 to 7000 people died on an average for several days together; that the English factory had suffered very little in comparison with other foreign ones; and that the distemper had ceased without any apparent cause on the 25th of May last.

8. Saturday was executed at Hereford, Samuel Aymis, convicted at the last assizes of entering the dwelling-house of Thomas Bailis, and stealing thereout one silk handkerchief.—He denied to the last his being guilty of the fact for which he suffered.

Wednesday se'nnight Joseph Shaw and Richard Wheatly were executed at Nottingham. The mode of procession was exceedingly solemn. They walked from the county gaol to the place of execution in their shrouds, followed by a vast concourse of people, and preceded by the choir of singers belonging to St. Mary's Church, who chanted several anthems, and hymns adapted to the occasion.

15. Tuesday there was a General Court of the proprietors of East-India stock, to ballot for the following question: "That it be recommended to the Court of Directors to make some suitable provision, not exceeding 2000. per ann. for such Captains as were in the Company's service before the 1st of April 1774;" which was carried in favour of the Captains by 101 majority.

18. Friday last were executed at Gloucester, Josiah Gardiner, James McDonald, Richard Falkner, and Wm. Townsend. Their demeanour under sentence, was decent and ingenuous, and for some days before they suffered had every outward token of genuine repentance. McDonald and Gardiner persisted to the last in declaring, that they had no design of murdering Mr. Huntley.

Mr. Lindsey, who from principles of conscience lately resigned the valuable living of Catterick in Yorkshire, opened the chapel of Essex-House, in Essex-Street, on Sunday last, under the name of the Unitarian Chapel, where he preached an excellent sermon on the occasion, to a very respectable and genteel audience, from Ephesians, ch. iv. ver. 3. *Endeavouring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.*

20. This day the five following male-factors were executed at Tyburn, viz. Wm. Hurley, late servant to Mr. Geering, attorney, in Bartholomew-lane, for stealing out of his master's house a quantity of plate, rings, &c. Robert Anderson, Geo. Brown, and Dennis Doyle, for burglary; and Thomas Ives, for high treason, in coining and counterfeiting the current silver coin. He was drawn on a sledge, and after hanging some time, his body was opened, and his bowels and heart taken out, and burnt.

The water of the navigable cut from Birmingham to Wolverhampton, forced its way into a coal pit, in which the miners had dug too near to the bed of the cut. Three men were at work when the accident happened. The violence of the water forced them up to the top of the pit, and two were saved.

25. Monday in the afternoon two apprentices of Mess. Spencer and Perkins, watch-tool-makers, facing St. Sepulchre's church; an apprentice of Mr. Kearsley's, in the Old Bailey, his uncle, and four other persons, took water for Greenwich; the waterman put up a sail to be the more expeditious in going down; when they got to Cuckold's point the wind blew very brisk, and the boat took in some water, which alarmed some of them much; but one of the company, supposed to be in liquor, jumped up to frighten the rest, and reeling on one side, they all instantly got up, by which they overset the boat, and seven of them were drowned. The eighth was taken up alive; and the waterman and his boy were with difficulty saved.

May 3. Friday the cause between the assignees of Mr. Fordyce, and Mr. Fisher, was argued in the court of King's-Bench, Westminster-hall. It appeared that Mr. Fisher, a gentleman of character, and a particular friend of Fordyce and Co. finding the house distressed on Saturday the 6th of June, 1772, deposited in their hands 7000l. for the purpose of saving them during the Whitstuntide holidays, when the Bank would be shut.—This being done out of friendship, Mr. Fordyce, finding that their situation was desperate, on the Tuesday following sent two notes for the money to Mr. Fisher, which were delivered to Mr. Harrison in trust for Mr. Fisher, he being out of town. The assignees brought this action to recover the notes, and the cause stands over for judgment next term.

5. This morning, at three o'clock, a fire broke out at a music shop in King-street, Covent-garden, which consumed the house and all the furniture. Mr. Kennedy and his wife, who directed the company of performers at Richmond last summer, were upon a visit to Mr. Younger, who kept the house. Mr. Kennedy was asleep when the fire was discovered: he was awakened by his wife, and immediately got up, desiring her to accompany him down the stairs, which were then in flames: she bid him run down, and she would instantly follow him. Almost without

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without knowing what he did, he rushed forward, and gained the street-door, but not without being violently scorched. He returned, however, to fetch his wife, but the insufferable heat obliged him to retreat.—Mrs. Kennedy and a young lady were seen calling for help at the back window of the garret immediately afterwards, but in an instant disappeared. Their bodies were on Wednesday night dug out of the ruins, in which they were found arm in arm.—It is said the above fatal accident happened by a young lady, who had been reading in bed, falling asleep without putting out the candle.

7. Thursday, at the anniversary meeting of the Sons of the clergy, the collections amounted to 929l. 1s.

11. A dreadful fire broke out at the workshop of Mr. Kite, tallow-chandler at Chatham, which spread so rapidly that 28 houses were destroyed, and many were greatly damaged before it was extinguished. The engines being in want of water, Mr. Best, the brewer, supplied the defect by small beer from his store-houses, otherwise it is thought half the town would have been laid in ashes. The damage is estimated at 15,000l.

Paris, May 26. As soon as Lewis the XVIIth was proclaimed, he met his council at one at noon, the 10th, and declared, that on account of his great youth and the little experience he had in the government of his kingdom, he would not take upon himself to act as his prime minister, but all affairs which shall be proposed and moved for the good of his subjects, the choice of his ministers, the better regulation of his finances, and his engagements with all the powers of Europe, should be laid upon the table, and then be decided by him, assisted by his dear cousins the Duke of Orleans and the Prince of Condé only.—The letter, of his own writing, by which he recalled Count Maurepas to court, deserves to be remarked: The following is an exact translation:

“SIR,—Overwhelmed with grief and sorrow, together with the whole nation, about the doleful event of the death of my illustrious predecessor, I have taken upon me a title of the greatest importance, that of King; a name which comprises infinite obligations. I am but twenty-three years of age, and want counsel: a man of merit, honour, and integrity, as you are, whom slanderous tongues have removed from court these twenty years, I wish to have near my person.—Come then, Sir, as fast as possible, for I have to converse with you on business of the greatest importance.”

The French are exceedingly lavish in their praises of the new monarch; and by the excellent regulations that seem to be taking place, there is great reason to conclude, that the Ministers which surround him are men of superior abilities; but we are assured by those that know, that as to the King himself he is a poor weak creature, of a sickly constitu-

tion, incapable of application to business, and has hitherto been given up to women.—The Queen, on the contrary, whom he consults on all occasions, is a woman of remarkable quickness, possessed of the most shining virtues, and reckoned one of the most judicious and sensible princeesses in Europe.—Under her influence France may possibly be raised to its former splendor: for all the economical and benevolent regulations are supposed to originate from her councils, assisted by Count Maurepas, who was banished from court in the former reign for advice that was disagreeable to the late King.

27. Monday last was tried before Lord Mansfield, in the Court of King's-Bench, Westminster, a cause on the statute of usury, wherein a gentleman was plaintiff, and an eminent pawnbroker, defendant. The plea of the declaration was, that the defendant had taken from 30 to 50 per cent. interest upon certain pledges. The jury found a verdict for the plaintiff, with 289l. 2s. 9d. damages, being treble the value pledged.

Wednesday came on a trial in the Court of King's Bench, before Lord Mansfield and a special jury, wherein a young lady was plaintiff, and a gentleman defendant. The action was brought to recover a promissory note of 1000l. against the defendant, for a promise of marriage, he being now married to another lady; it appeared upon the trial that the lady had been intimate with other gentlemen, and after a short hearing, the defendant agreed to give her 200l. and each party to pay their own costs.

Friday was tried in the Court of Common Pleas, before Lord Chief Justice De Grey, and a special jury, a cause wherein the Rev. Mr. Jenkins was plaintiff, and a gentleman of Essex, defendant. The action was for *crim. con.* with the plaintiff's wife; which being proved to the satisfaction of the court, the jury brought in a verdict for the plaintiff, with 300l. damages, and costs of suit.

27. A travelling tinker, known in Surry by the name of Tantarum George, was found murdered on Blackheath. His dog was lying by his side, very much wounded; and, altho' the poor animal was scarce able to crawl, he attempted to seize the person who found his master, on his going to move him.

28. The following bill, drawn by Mr. Clark, surgeon, of Trowbridge, sole executor of the late steady patriot Wm. Temple, Esq.; has been lately accepted:

“One month after date be pleased to pay to John Wilkes, Esq; alderman of the city of London, the sum of 500l. value received, by a grateful public, from his strenuous exertions in the cause of liberty and the English constitution, against a series of tyrannical, despotic, and wicked ministers.”

Capt. Chambers, of the ship London, at the request of many ladies of his acquaintance in New-York, whom good-nature prompted him to oblige, was induced when

he failed from England to carry out with him a small quantity of fine Hyfon Tea, for their use and accommodation only; sensible that such a thing, if made public, might be misinterpreted to his disadvantage, he took all the care he possibly could in shipping the tea, to prevent its being known. His precautions were, however, by the management and contrivance of his enemies, defeated, and what he did purely from motives of complaisance, being artfully represented as having been done with a view to gain privately an emolument to himself, at his arrival before New-York in April last, his ship was searched, and all the tea he had on board thrown into the sea. Had he been suffered to explain himself to the people at New-York, he might possibly have received a very different treatment from them; but there is no reasoning with a multitude.

June 4. This being the anniversary of his Majesty's birth-day, who entered the 37th year of his age, their Majesties received the compliments of the nobility, &c. on the occasion at St. James's. At noon the Ode was performed in the great Council chamber; and at night there was a ball for the nobility at St. James's, bonfires, illuminations, &c.—Their Majesties came into the ball-room sooner than usual; his Grace the Duke of Devonshire danced the first minuet with Lady Georgina Fitzroy; their Royal Highnesses the Prince of Wales and Bishop of Osnaburgh danced several minuets; at eleven their Majesties retired, and the ball ended.—The ladies were never known to make a more brilliant appearance; and very few artificial faces were to be met with.

7. The King has been pleased to order a charter to be made under the great seal of Great-Britain, to reincorporate the borough of Saltash in Cornwall, by the name and stile of the Mayor and Free Burgeffes of the borough of Saltash; and to confirm to them, and their successors, their ancient powers and privileges.

11. At the entertainment this day given by Lord Stanley at his seat in Surry, under the title of a *Fête Champêtre*, there were present the Duke and Duchefs of Marlborough, Duchesses of Northumberland and Grafton, Duke of Dorset, Lord North, the Foreign Ministers, Lord and Lady Melbourne, Lord Charles Spencer, Lord Robert Bertie, Lady Betty Hamilton, Lady Almeria Carpenter, Lady Frances Conway, Lady Harriot Stanhope, and near 300 persons of the first rank. The first part of the evening Lady Betty was dressed in the habit of Vandyke's wife, in compliment to his Lordship, who was dressed as Vandyke. At supper she was still more beautiful, having changed her dress for that of Iphigenia preparing for sacrifice. A troop of Burgoyne's light horse attended to prevent disorder. The company had all rosegays and oak leaves in their hair. The expence is computed at full 5000l.—The

beauty of the ladies acquired, if possible, new force from the pastoral simplicity of their appearance, and had Theocritus himself been a spectator of the scene, he would have confessed, that the most delightful picture his imagination ever painted in the fields of Sicily, was by no means to be compared with the real festivity of the Oaks.

Lord Stanley ordered all the dresses (some of which were very rich) to be given to the music, singers, and dancers, that they were on the above occasion.

23. This day was married, at Argyle-House, by a special licence, Lord Stanley, to Lady Betty Hamilton, daughter of the late Duke of Hamilton, and of the present Duchefs of Argyle.

24. Saturday last the coroner's inquest sat on the bodies of two dead babies, which were found concealed among some ashes behind a chimney in the garret of one Smith, at Shipley, near Horsham, Sussex, and brought in their verdict *wilful murder* against persons unknown. One of the infants had its head pressed quite flat, and the other had a piece of red tape fastened round its neck; and it is thought they had lain there more than a year.—Smith's wife was taken up, and examined before the Coroner, but nothing sufficient to warrant her commitment appearing against her, she was discharged.

COUNTRY NEWS.

Farnham, Surry, May 4. Something like an earthquake happened a short time since at Hawkhly, Hants. About 160 yards of an eminence sunk almost perpendicular, so that the gate and gate post which were on the top, now stand upright between 40 and 50 feet lower than before. On one side, a common road is sunk 9 or 10 feet; on the other (about a quarter of a mile distance) part of a field not much declining, is drove from its place about 20 feet: this has been forced with great violence, as it is pushed against a hill not less than 20 feet high, which hill is surprisingly torn by the shock.

Hereford, May 23. We have the greatest prospect of a plentiful year, both in cyder and grain, that was ever remembered; the farmers are all looking out their calks to get them in order, for these late rains have put the fruit quite out of danger.

AMERICAN NEWS.

Boston, May 19. Friday last arrived here his Majesty's ship *Lively*, Capt. Bishop, in 26 days from England, in whom came his Excellency General Gage, governor and commander in chief of this province.

Same day there was a numerous and respectable meeting of the Freeholders and other inhabitants, in Faneuil hall, to consider of an edict lately passed by the British parliament, for shutting up the harbour, and other ways punishing the inhabitants, and to determine upon proper measures to be taken by

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Engraved for the Monthly Miscellany.



the town thereon. After making choice of Mr. Samuel Adams moderator of the meeting, the edit was distinctly read by the clerk, and the nature and tendency as well as the design of it being explained in the observations of several gentlemen upon it, the town came into the following vote, *nem. con. viz.*

"That it is the opinion of this town, that if the other colonies come into a joint resolution to stop all importations from Great-Britain, and exportation to Great-Britain, and every part of the West-Indies, till the act for blocking up the harbour be repealed, the same will prove the salvation of North-America and her liberties: On the other hand, if they continue their exports and imports, there is high reason to fear that fraud, power, and the most odious oppression will rise triumphant over right, justice, social happiness, and freedom. And ordered, that this vote be forthwith transmitted by the moderator to all our sister colonies in the name and behalf of this town."—After which a Committee was chosen to repair immediately to the towns of Salem and Marblehead, to com-

municate the sentiments of this metropolis to the gentlemen there.

Previous to the adjournment the town passed the following notes, *viz.*

1st. That the trade of the town of Boston has been one essential link in that vast chain of commerce, which in the course of a few ages has raised New England to be what it is, the southern provinces to be what they are, the West-India Islands to their wealth, and in one word, the British empire to that height of opulence, power, pride, and splendor, at which it now stands.

2dly. That the impolicy, injustice, inhumanity, and cruelty of the act aforesaid, exceed all our powers of expression. We therefore leave it to the just censure of others, and appeal to God and the world.

We are told that the seat of government is to be removed from this town to Salem; that the general assembly, after election, will be removed thither; and that the four regiments, daily expected from Ireland, are to be stationed at that place and Marblehead, and none to be quartered in this town.

FLOWERS OF PARNASSUS.

AT the close of the last theatrical campaign Mr. Colman resigned the management of Covent-garden Theatre, and sold his share of the patent to Mr. Dagge, who is now joint manager with Messrs. Harris and Leake.—This change in the theatrical ministry has made some noise in the world, and has given rise to two tolerable pieces of poetry, which we here present to our readers, with a very fine Engraving of Mr. COLMAN.

OCCASIONAL EPILOGUE

On the Departure of the Manager of the Theatre-Royal, Covent-Garden, May 26, 1774.

Spoken by Miss BARRANTI.

OF mortal men how equal is the date!
Kings, and mock kings, submit alike to fate.

Abroad, in state one mighty monarch lies;
While here, his Majesty of Brentford dies.

Hung be the stage with black! and Juliet's bell,

'Midst flashing rosin, toll our monarch's knell!
While we with tragic plumes and mournful verse,

In slow procession all attend his hearse.

First in dead march the Music—unbraç'd drums—

Then with a monstrous purse the Treasurer
The hugeness of the bag your fancy cozens;
Prick it! and out comes orders by whole dozens:

Swell'd as it is, no substance sure enough;
No cast—but like a bladder blown—all puff!

Two tiny Fairies bear an epitaph;
Two Printers next, with each a paragraph;
Both boasting of applause that ne'er was shown,

And crowded houses that were never known.
Big as a Sybil's self, or something bigger,
Old Mother Shipton comes, a noble figure!
Full horribly she grins with ghastly charms,
Our Monarch's baby image in her arms.
Then follow Sylphs, Ghouls, Witches in Macbeth,

A gouty Harlequin, a Prompter out of breath;
A white-glov'd Housekeeper, with whiter wand;

An empty box-book in the other hand;
One, like Lord Chamberlain, his office graces;
The other shews you there are store of places.
Six Beggar's Opera Ladies tend the bier,
Parted, like Hector's wife, 'twixt smiles and tear;

Elfrida's virgins too proceed before us;
A modern-ancient English-Grecian Chorus.
Scene Shifters, Candle Snuffers, and Stage-keepers, [Sweepers,
Bill Stickers, Pickpockets, and Chimney
The mob without doors, and the mob within,
Close the procession, and complete the din.

Thus having buried him, let's wave dis-
fection, [tion.
'Tis now too late to give his faults correc-
Peace—if peace may be—to his shade!—he
Fel de se, poor soul! a suicide: [died
Yet he contested with his departing breath,
And in the very article of death,
Oft did your favour cherish his pretences,
Which now detracts his funeral expences.

Saral

*Sacred to the immortal Memory of the late Manager
of a Theatre Royal, deceased.*

AN EPI TAPH.

HERE lies what has puzzled the world
to define,

The Page, Pimp,—and Scourge of the Muses
all nine :

The renown'd little COLEY, our drama's
fell hero,

Who, an elf in man's flesh, had the soul of
a Nere.

Come ye sylphs ! with your spells let his
tomb be protected,

Left by HARRIS and Co. he in turn—be
disseñal.

To delude these odd-fish by a project that
wife is, [prizes :

Bait their fav'rite sense with the object it
Thus to HARRIS,—present his soft *Imogen*

sleeping ;

To LEAKE,—some Champaigne that would
spoil in the keeping ;

Set an haunch before DAGGE on which god-
lings might dine,

And the charm is wound up in defence of
your shrine ;

As for FISHER—regard not that chattering
pye, [by.

But despising his consequence,—let him pass
Draw near, oh ye Actors ! and weep
yourselves blind,

Since the taper's snuff'd out, that gave light
to your mind,

Such a bard !—Pretty soul, when it hardly
could waddle,

It cry'd for a seat upon Pegafus' saddle,
Nay he told us, that Fame having made out

his paws, [nafs :

Like a comet array'd, he would soar to Par-
Gods and Bards then assembled in concert
to meet him ;

Their harps were new strung, and in rap-
tures to greet him :

Thus a-gog to behold this poetical rocket,
Lo GARRICK arriving ;—he sprung from his
pocket !

Diffusive his beams as the rays of Apollo,
If he rhym'd in alliance,—his colleague must
follow ;

Blest collision that always illumin'd his lyre !
For if flint—steel—or tinder box—* he gave
the fire.

Thus a flime cozing current too mean for a
name, [fame,

When parting to swell the proud annals of
Trails along to the channel, her soft muddy
gens, [THAMES !

And immediately hails herself—Mother of

* *He struck the fire*—The modesty of the
deceased little great man was so singular,
that it is worthy observation,—In all literary
productions where he was but the *secondary*
cause, he never failed to arrogate to himself
the whole merit of each composition, Vid.
The Clarendon Marriage, &c.

In love as in letters, each rival outvying,
Not a queen of his train but he nightly was
plying :

Untouch'd the ripe fruit hung in clusters
around, [the ground ;

As his taste bade him relish, but † that on
Nay how could a virgin with transports fa-
lute him, [suit him ?

Since Nature design'd the † *first cut* not to
He feasted on beauties with rapture and ease,

As an emmet possesses a huge Cheshire cheese,
This span of cold clay may no squirrel
draw nigh ! [him lie :

Tho' a nut-shell contain him, in state let
For invention was tortur'd to wrap the dwarf
snug ;— [his rug ;

Some propos'd a mole's tail to be stay'd for
But Genius before-hand had spun the warm
fleeces, [pieces.

So his coffin was lin'd with—the wit of his
His napper-reclines on his own *Jealous Wife* ;

Transcrib'd by a sylphid to whom he gave life ;
On this precious relic he firmly relies

To ascend the first trump to the uppermost
skies.

But alas ! what assailants his march will op-
poise, [goes !

Demanding their fragment each step that he
If the notion prove right which our school-
men divine, [can shine,

That aloft none in robes that are borrow'd
When each has dismantled this daw of his
feather,

How the devil, unstedg'd, will he waft him-
self thither ?

No wing to borrow'd—not that of a drone,
Since he stole § *Bonnel Thornton's*, and swore
'twas his own ;

No || *Refs* to look down from a cover divine,
To pity the starvling, and ask him to dine.

Even BATH * now awake, shall his torture
decree,

And proclaim him aloud, a mean—*felo de se*.
But

† *That on the ground*.—His female connexi-
ons sufficiently elucidate this passage.—

‡ *First cut*.—This extraordinary anecdote
has but lately been communicated, by one of
those useful motherly females, who officiated
at his nativity.

§ *Stole Bonnel Thornton's*.—It is well known
that the deceased in conjunction with the ce-
lebrated Thornton wrote, or rather compiled, a
periodical paper entitled the *Commissaire*, which
was first published some years past at Oxford.

The latter having written a number of this
work which he particularly admired, request-
ed his colleague to go post with it to Oxford,
and to correct it with his own hand. On

Coley's arrival, ¶—the printer informed
him, that the publication must inevitably be
stopt if he had not the copy in two hours at
farthest. Here was an offer of *immortality* the
poet could not forego ! He replied, that hav-
ing been a *bon vivant* the preceding evening,
he was but indifferently prepared for the task,

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But the heart of a *Scot* will in sympathy
bleed,
When it views the sad scene which must
quickly succeed,
For fate will demand (in spite of pretences)
A full expiation for all his offences;
Whose shafts, left the sophist with logic
should parry, [carry,
Minerva's sage bird his death-warrant shall
Winging down,—by the breech at one pounce
she will take him, [him,
And soaring aloft, high in air wildly shake
When in penance thus comic, the culprit
appears, [spheres!
What fallies of laughter shall run thro' the
Nay, as great folks love fun, one may ven-
ture the odds, [the gods.—
But Olympus will shake with the mirth of
Thus in æther he'll swing the sole out-cast of
nature, [nature,
'Till some kind immortal, brim full of good-
Beholding the victim with pitiful eyes,
To a *BAT* shall transform him—the tyrant
of *FLIES*!

yet if he would furnish him with a room,
pen, ink, and paper, he would see what could
be done. Being accommodated to his wishes,
he transcribed his friend *Thornton's* essay,
and delivered it for the press in little more than
an hour. *J*—was astonished at the ra-
pidity of his genius; and this identical paper
making a considerable noise in the world at
that time, the printer as in duty bound pro-
claimed the velocity of his author's fancy; a
circumstance which procured him that *merit-
ed* fame he never after could be persuaded or
even forced to resign.

|| *No Rofs*—Before our departed friend ar-
rived to the height of his poetical consequence,
his situation compelled him to be so trouble-
some to his acquaintance, that he was uni-
versally known by the appellation of the
Temple Leech; Mr. *Rofs's* table having always
a knife and fork for him, there he was to be
found at last, morning, noon, and night.—
Soon after he became *Manager*, *Rofs* thought
himself happy to engage with him, naturally
expecting the turn of the scale in his favour
for the civilities he had shewn him;—and so
he had;—for being confined with a fit of the
gout, and in consequence rendered incapable
of playing a few nights, the *Manager* ordered
his treasurer to put him under stoppages:—
An instance scarce ever known before.—
Mr. *Rofs* bore it with great temper, only de-
siring the treasurer “to make his compli-
ments to the *Manager*, and inform him, that
the deduction was inconvenient enough at
that time;—but he was glad it did not
take place a few years before, for if it had,
he and Mr. *C.* would have been in want of
many a good dinner.”

* *Both now awake*—For the extraordinary
obligations he lay under to this nobleman, he
made him and his lady the principal charac-
ters of his *Jealous Wife*.

For the MONTHLY MISCELLANY.

ODE to OBERON.

By the late Mrs. GRENVILLE.

OFT I've implor'd the Gods in vain,
And pray'd 'till I've been weary;
For once I'll try my wish to gain
Of Oberon the Fairy.

Sweet airy Being, wanton Spright,
That lurk't in woods unseen,
And oft by Cynthia's silver light
Trip't gaily o'er the green;

If e'er thy pitying heart was mov'd,
As ancient stories tell,
And for th' Athenian Maid who lov'd,
Thou fought'st a wond'rous spell;
Oh, deign once more t' exert thy pow'r,
Haply some herb or tree,
Sov'reign as juice from western flow'r,
Conceals a balm for me,

I ask no kind return of love,
No tempting charm to please;
Far from this heart such gifts remove,
That fight for peace and ease.

Nor peace nor ease the heart can know,
Which like the needle true,
Turns at the touch of joy or woe,
But turning trembles too.

Far as distress the soul can wound,
'Tis pain in each degree;
'Tis bliss but to a certain bound,
Beyond is agony.

Take then this treach'rous sense of mine,
Which dooms me still to smart,
Which pleasure can to pain refine,
To pain new pangs impart.

Oh, haste to shed the sacred balm,
My shatter'd nerves new string,
And for my guest serenely calm
The nymph *Indifference* bring.

At her approach, see Hope, see Fear,
See Expectation fly,
With Disappointment in the rear,
Which blasts the promis'd joy.

The tear, which pity taught to flow,
My eyes shall then disown;
My heart that throbs at other's woes
Shall then scarce feel its own.

The wounds which now each moment bleed,
For ever then shall close,
And tranquil days shall still succeed
To nights of calm repose.

O Fairy Elf, but grant me this,
This one kind comfort send;
And so may never-fading bliss
Thy flowery paths attend:

So may the glow-worm's glimmering light
Thy tiny footsteps lead,
To some new region of delight
Unknown to mortal tread.

And be thy acorn goblet fill'd
With heav'n's ambrosial dew,
From sweetest freshest flow'rs distill'd,
That shed fresh sweets for you.

And what of life remains for me,
I'll pass in sober ease;
Half pleas'd, contented will I be,
Content but half to please.

THE ANSWER.

By the late Lady CARLISLE.

WITHOUT preamble to my friend,
These hasty lines I'm bid to send,
Or give, if I am able;
I dare not hesitate to obey,
Tho' I have trembled all the day,
It looks so like a fable.

Last night (adventure is my theme,
And should it strike you as a dream,
Yet sure its high import
Will make you think the matter such,
So delicate, it was too much
To be compos'd in sport.)

The moon did shine serenely bright,
And every star bedeck'd the night,
While zephyrs fan'd the trees;
No noise assail'd my mind's repose,
Save that you stream which murmur'd flows
Did echo to the breeze.

Enwrap'd in solemn thought I sat,
Revolving o'er the turns of fate,
Yet void of hope or fear;
When lo! behold an airy throng,
With lightest step and jocund song,
Surpris'd my eye and ear.

A form, superior to the rest,
His little voice to me address'd,

And gently thus began:
"I've heard strange news from one of you,
Pray tell me if you think it true,
Explain it if you can.

"Such incense has perfum'd my throne,
Such eloquence my heart has won,

"I think I guess the hand:
"I know her wit and beauty too,
But why she sends a pray'r so new,
I cannot understand.

"To light some flames, and some revive,
To keep some others just alive,
Full oft I am implor'd;

"But with peculiar power to please,
To supplicate for nought but ease,
Is odd, upon my word!

"Tell her, with fruitless care I've fought,
And thro' my realms with wonder fraught,
Tho' remedies abound;

"No grain of cold indifference
Was ever yet ally'd to sense
In all my fairy ground.

"The regions of the sky I'd trace,
I'd ransack every earthly place,
Each tree, each plant, each flow'r,
To mitigate the pangs of fear,
Dispel the mists of black despair,
Or lull her restless hour.

"I'd fain be generous as just;
But I obey, as others must,
The law which Fate has made:

"My tiny kingdoms her defend,
And what may be its horrid end,
Should man my state invade.

"'Twould put the world into a rage,
And such unequal war to wage
Suits not my royal duty;

"I dare not change a fix'd decree,
She's doom'd to please, nor can be free,
Such is the lot of beauty."

This said, he darted o'er the plain,
And after follow'd all his train,
No track of him I find;
But sure I am the little Spright
These words, before he took his flight,
Imprinted on my mind.

For the MONTHLY MISCELLANY.

THE DISAPPOINTED POET.

P O E T.

MOST richly bound, and gilt, and letter'd,
In every page his Lordship's flatter'd;
No doubt a *swatch*, or *snuff-box*, ring,
Or some such valuable thing,
Will be presented to the bard,—
A mark of friendship, and regard.

B O O K.

Excuse me, sir,—indeed you're wrong,—
What! *fifty pieces* for—a song!
His Lordship knows the worth of gold,
Nor will so easily be fool'd.—
Read *Scarron*, sir, (and *Scarron* knew
The trim of all the courtly crew:)
Thus runs his tale, or I mistake—
I will repeat it for your sake.

"My book respectfully presented,
His Lordship perfectly contented,
Return'd me thanks, and with a smile,
Begg'd leave he might withdraw a-while.
"I bow'd submissive,—fill'd with notions
Of *places*, *present*s, and *promotions*;
Besides, no doubt, to pay off scores,
His Grace would give—some *Louis d'ors*.—
Thus with impatience long I burn'd:
Loaded, at length, my Lord return'd.—
See here, these papers, sir, he cried,
Whilst gently he the knot untied,
You'll find your praise not misapplied.
My mind with wild chimeras heated,
Conceiv'd my fortune now completed.
"Scarron, (and here he squeez'd my hand)
To give you proofs I am your friend,
And have a genius too for rhyme,
(I wou'd not break upon your time)
Know, Phœbus, and each sister muse,
Their kind assistance ne'er refuse;
When'er I deign to tune the lyre,
I write as fast—as they inspire.
Now, sir, attend:—I, fill'd with bile,
(And in damn'd torture all the while)
Pretended business—took my leave,
Cursing the cockcomb in my sleeve;
And vow'd, with solemn protestations,
I'd never more write *Deductions*."

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I N D E X

TO THE

LETTERS, ESSAYS, POETRY,

AND OTHER

MISCELLANEOUS ARTICLES.

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